



Curriculum Overview

Year 9

Students joining Sandy Upper School in Year 9 followed a broad and balanced curriculum having already made their option choices before start of the year.

The vast majority of students follow a core curriculum of English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and a Modern Foreign Language. This group of subjects forms the English Baccalaureate.

In Science students follow either the Combined Science course which is worth two GCSEs or the three individual sciences of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, with students achieving a full GCSE in each individual science.

In Humanities students select either Geography or History, whilst they select either French or Spanish as their modern foreign language.

For a small number of students for whom the English Baccalaureate is not the most suitable curriculum they will have additional English and Maths lessons rather than study a foreign language and undertake an alternative course to humanities.

Students all follow a vocational course and for Year 9 this is either Business Studies or Travel & Tourism, the studying of a vocational course enables students to develop a different style of learning and to achieve their qualification through continuous assessment.

All students have Physical Education lessons, and these not only cover the core requirement of physical activity but also lead to a recognised qualification in Sports Science.

Alongside these subjects student also select two GCSE subjects from Art, Catering, Child Development, Dance, Drama, Graphic Design, Media, Music, Philosophy & Ethics, PE, Resistant Materials and Textiles.

Year 10

Students in Year 10 continue to studies the courses started in Year 9.

The vast majority of students follow a core curriculum of English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and a Modern Foreign Language. This group of subjects forms the English Baccalaureate.

In Science students follow either the Core & Additional Science course which is worth two GCSEs or the three individual sciences of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, with students achieving a full GCSE in each individual science.

In Humanities students are studying either Geography or History; whilst they study either French or Spanish as their modern foreign language.

For a small number of students for whom a modern foreign language is not the most suitable curriculum they will have additional English and Maths lessons or study vocational Travel & Tourism.



All students have Physical Education lessons, and these not only cover the core requirement of physical activity but also lead to a recognised qualification in Sports Science.

Alongside these subjects student also continue two GCSE subjects from Art, Catering, Dance, Drama, Graphic Design, Media, Music, Performing Arts, PE, Psychology and Resistant Materials.

Year 11

Students in Year 11 continue their studies with the vast majority of students follow a core curriculum of English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and a Modern Foreign Language. This group of subjects forms the English Baccalaureate.

In Science students follow either the Core & Additional Science course which is worth two GCSEs or the three individual sciences of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, with students achieving a full GCSE in each individual science.

In Humanities students are studying either Geography or History; whilst they study either French or Spanish as their modern foreign language.

For a small number of students for whom a modern foreign language is not the most suitable curriculum they study vocational Travel & Tourism.

For a small number of students for whom a humanities subject is not the most suitable curriculum they study Computer Science.

All students have Physical Education lessons, and these not only cover the core requirement of physical activity but also lead to a recognised qualification in Sport.

Students all follow a vocational course and this is either Business Studies or ICT, the studying of a vocational course enables students to develop a different style of learning and to achieve their qualification through continuous assessment.

Students will have achieved several qualifications at the end of Year 10 and this enables them to choose an additional subject in Year 11. The students choose from Art, Catering, Child Development, Drama, Graphic Design, Music, Performing Arts, Philosophy & Ethics, Resistant Materials and Textiles.

Year 12

Students joining our Sixth Form have a full curriculum where they study AS courses, Level 3 BTEC courses or a combination of both. Students all complete the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and where required resit classes in both English and Mathematics are available.

AS subjects currently offered are: Art, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Dance, Drama, Economics, English, French, Further Maths, Geography, Graphics, History, Human Biology, Maths, Media, Philosophy & Ethics, PE, Physics, Product Design, Psychology and Sociology.

BTEC subjects currently offered are: Health & Social Care, ICT and Sport.



Year 13

Students in Year 13 continue their subjects from Year 12, where a student only continues with 3 A level subjects it may be possible for the student to pick up an additional AS level. Students in Year 13 are expected to complete the Level 3 Certificate in Financial Studies (IFS).

A2 subjects currently offered are: Art, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Dance, Drama, Economics, English, Food Technology, Geography, Graphics, History, Human Biology, Maths, Media, Music, Philosophy & Ethics, PE, Physics, Product Design, Psychology, Sociology and Spanish.

BTEC subjects currently offered are: Health & Social Care, ICT and Sport.