



19 November 2025

Dear Families

Home Language GCSE Qualifications

The Languages Department is keen to celebrate and encourage the linguistic diversity of students at Sackville School. We believe, as a school, in the fundamental value that speaking another language at home can bring to a student's life and to that of the wider school community, and want to encourage those students who do speak another language at home to challenge themselves and receive an additional qualification in their home language. Last year, all students who sat a Home Language GCSE achieved grades 7-9, with 4 Grade 9s achieved.

We are, therefore, delighted to be able to offer the opportunity to sit a GCSE in their native language(s) to those students in Year 10/11 who speak one of the languages listed below:

French	Italian
German	Japanese
Spanish	Persian
Arabic	Polish
Biblical Hebrew	Portuguese
Chinese	Russian
Greek	Turkish
Gujurati	Urdu

Please note that, as these 'additional' GCSEs are aimed at students already proficient in these languages, interested students are expected to study independently – we are unable to offer timetabled teaching towards the qualification in school. However, we will provide guidance on which topics and vocabulary students need to know, and on how to approach the assessment components that make up the exam.

For students to be able to achieve a GCSE grade in their home language, they require a minimum proficiency level of A2 on the CEFR Scale. An example (in English) of a good GCSE writing answer is overleaf. If you feel that your child would be able to produce an accurate, similar answer in their native/home language, then they should be able to achieve well at GCSE.

If you are interested in entering your child for one of these qualifications this academic year, please email Mrs Potts (cpotts@mysackville.co.uk) confirming your child's name, year group, tutor group and which language you wish to enter them for. We will then set about assessing





their proficiency in school before making a final decision on entering them for the exam. To facilitate this process, we kindly request that you make contact no later than Friday 05 December 2025.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to further celebrating the successes and linguistic diversity of the Sackville Community.

Yours sincerely

Mr Sam Francis
CTL Languages

Mrs Chloe Potts
Teacher of Languages

EXAMPLE GCSE WRITING ANSWER: If your child could produce an accurate answer of a similar level and length in their native/home language, they would likely be successful at GCSE.





Write an e-mail to your friend Thomas. You must mention the following points:

- How you like to spend your free time
- What you did with your friends last weekend
- Your opinion on spending your free time with your family
- Something you are going to do with your sister this evening

Normally, I like to spend my free time reading books because I think that they are quite interesting. On the other hand, my younger brother does not like to read because he prefers to play video games. How annoying! Sometimes, I like to walk the dog because I am quite active and because animals are my passion, but from time-to-time, I have to stay at home and do homework. My mum says homework is important because I need to learn, but I think it can be very boring.

Last weekend, I went with my best friend to the park, and we played football because we love sport and because we play football every day at school. After, we met our friends at the café. I ate a sandwich with chicken because I believe it is delicious, but my friend ate a salad because she is a vegetarian. I would say that it is very important to eat healthy food. Finally, as a group, we went to the shops, but I did not buy anything because it was too expensive.

In my opinion, although it is very important to spend time with your family, for me it is very boring because my parents are not very interesting. I would prefer to spend the time playing video games – for example, I really like to play Fifa with my friends. My grandad thinks it is very important to spend free time with family and, therefore, he comes to our house every Sunday.

This evening, after school, I am going to play on the computer, although I should probably do my maths homework. My mum is going to walk the dog and afterwards, she is going to listen to music and talk to her friends on WhatsApp because she is very sociable. How fun!