

SENIOR SCHOOL ACADEMIC LANGUAGE GUIDE

Teaching and Learning		
Term	Summary Explanation	Year Group Relevance
Learning Score	A score out of 20 made up of five component scores out of 4 – Engagement with the Subject, Response to Feedback, Collaboration, Strategies for Study, Homework. It reflects your approach to study over a period of time since your last Learning Score. Students of all abilities can and should aim for high learning scores, which reflect approach to study, not attainment.	All
Attainment Score	A measure of Attainment based on a common task undertaken by all in a year group. Usually a test or exam. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower School: Scores are 9-1. • Middle School: Scores are usually 9-1. • Sixth Form: Scores are A*-U. 	All
WWW EBI/SDC	What Went Well (WWW) Even Better If (EBI) Student Development Challenge (SDC) This is a standard marking format used when appropriate by teachers in all subjects and for all year groups to help guide and support student progress and response to feedback.	All
STARS	STARS (Student Tracking And Review System) is the ongoing process by which academic progress (in Learning and Attainment) is tracked and supportive interventions are coordinated by Academic and/or Pastoral staff.	All
Action Plan (AP)	A timebound formal and supportive strategy to focus a learning support intervention. Student engagement and response to an AP will be reviewed as will its impact on learning and progress.	Any
Inclusion and Enrichment (I&E) Register	Our I+E register (also known as the Learning Support Register) is a summary of all students in the College that have been identified as SEND, Scholars/more able, and/or EAL. This is shared with teaching staff to support teaching and learning.	Any
Learning Support Profile (LSP)	An individualised Learning Support Profile drawn up for any student in need of learning support. For students with SEN and D, the Profile is generated by the SENDCo following consultation with, and information gathered from, the pupil, parents, and relevant staff.	Any

Examination and Assessment		
Term	Summary Explanation	Year Group Relevance
Starting Grade (S Grade)	The first grade awarded to a public examination cohort that has been measured against a complete or substantial public exam unit and mark scheme.	Y10 (T2) Y12 (T2)
Developing Grade (D Grade)	The subsequent grades awarded to a public examination cohort to be interpreted in comparison to the Starting Grade.	Y11 (M2/L2) Y13 (M2) Y13 (L2)
Challenge Grade (C Grade)	A student owned aspiration for their public examination outcome arising out of reflection upon Starting and Developing Grades with staff.	Y11, Y13
Predicted Grade	Generated for UCAS applications. They are optimistic, but evidence based, projections of likely public exam outcomes, based on evidence from prior achievement and study.	Y13 only
Platform Test	A classroom test of key information shortly after the start of a public exam course to establish that a student has understood the basics to access their course.	Y10, Y11, Y12, Y13 (M1)
Benchmark Test	An in lesson, formal, assessment that uses public exam questions and public exam mark schemes.	Y11,12,13
Trial Examination	A formal assessment in an examination hall or room (as opposed to in a timetabled lesson) in the year of a Public Examination. The paper sat is normally a past Public Exam paper (GCSE or A Level as appropriate).	Y11, Y13
Public / External Examination	An examination set and marked by a public examination board that contributes to a GCSE / iGCSE / A Level / Pre-U result.	Y11 and Y13 (Y12 Pre-U)
Internal Examination	A formal examination set and organised by the College rather than an examination board.	All
End of Year Examination	An Internal Examination at the end of an academic year. Not for a Public Examination year group.	Y7-10 and Y12
Re-Sit	A formal re-take in response to underperformance in a Trial/Summer or Internal Exam.	Y11-13
Coursework	Extended writing that is completed over time, not always under teacher supervision, and in line with Exam Board regulations. It contributes to a Public Examination result.	Y10, Y11, Y12, Y13 (some subjects)
Controlled Assessment	A task that is completed outside of examination season, but under Exam Board regulations and staff supervision. It contributes to a Public Examination result.	Y10, Y11, Y12, Y13 (some subjects)
Access Arrangement	Specific arrangement for students taking an exam that are not the same for the whole cohort. If permitted in Y7-9 they become null and void for Y10 onwards without a new, specialist assessment in Y9.	Y7-9 Y10-13
Transition Threshold	A minimum level of attainment to be reached in order to secure automatic transition into the next academic phase. Pitched to ensure meaningful access to the following year's curriculum.	All

Qualification Types		
Term	Summary Explanation	Year Group Relevance
GCSE and IGCSE	IGCSE is a GCSE that can be sat in countries other than the UK as well as in the UK. There is no difference in status or quality of qualification. Students at St Dunstan's begin Y10 on a programme of ten GCSE and/or IGCSE qualifications. Grades awarded are 9-1 and no longer A*-U.	Y10-11
A Level	The key academic qualification achieved by students in the Sixth Form. All A Levels taught at St Dunstan's are now 'linear' meaning that the public examinations are sat at the end of Y13 and examine all learning across both years 12 and 13. The College does not offer or prepare students for AS Level examinations in Y12 (or Y13).	Y12-13
Pre-U	Pre-University qualifications are offered as parallel alternatives to A Levels in some subjects nationwide. At SDC we offer one in 'Global Perspectives' as part of the Diploma programme. All Year 12 students follow the course for one term and then choose to continue it to qualification or to use the time in other ways. Year 12 students who continue with the Pre-U take it to AS equivalent level in Y12. Those who wish to may then choose to take it to full A Level equivalent level in Y13.	Y12-13
St Dunstan's Diploma	Sixth Form students at SDC take their A Levels as the academic core at the heart of a Sixth Form educational framework we call the Diploma. It is a flexible and choice driven framework designed to support the education and development of young people to be ready to thrive in contexts beyond school, as well as to achieve the grades to get there. Further information can be found on the website.	Y12, Y13

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