



**Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP**  
Minister of State for School Standards

Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 3BT  
tel: 0370 000 2288 [www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus](http://www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus)

Mr Paul Woods  
Headteacher  
Sir John Cass Foundation and Redcoat Church of England Secondary School  
Stepney Way  
London  
E1 0RH

29 March 2019

Dear Mr Woods

I would like to congratulate you and your staff on your school's achievement in entering 82 per cent of your pupils into the EBacc and 95 per cent of your pupils for a language GCSE in 2018.

The Russell Group has termed the EBacc subjects, including languages, as 'facilitating'; those that, when taken at A level, open doors to more degrees at university. They provide a sound basis for a variety of careers beyond the age of 16 and can also enrich pupils' studies, giving them a broad general knowledge that will enable them to participate in and contribute to society.

We want to ensure that every child, regardless of their background, has the opportunity to study the EBacc combination of subjects at GCSE, which is why I was delighted to see your results. With 95 per cent of pupils entered for a language GCSE in 2018, your school is in the top 4 per cent of all state-funded mainstream secondary schools in the country, so far as language is concerned.

Your school's EBacc and language GCSE entries mean your school is providing pupils with a firm foundation in linguistic knowledge, as well as broadening their horizons and enabling them to embark on further study.

Thank you and congratulations again to you and your staff.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

**Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP**  
Minister of State for School Standards