2026-2027

Introduction to the Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) departments 2026-2027

French and German are taught by a team of seven specialist language teachers. Most lessons are taught in three well-equipped language classrooms.

Pupils in Year 7 study either French or German and continue with this language until the end of Year 11.

This academic year all pupils in Year 7 will be studying French.

At the end of Year 9, Pupils can choose a second language from French/German or Latin to study in Year 10 alongside the language they started in Year 7.

All pupils are expected to continue with at least one language to GCSE. In most cases this will be the language studied since Year 7.

At KS4 the Modern Foreign Languages are French and German as the first Modern Foreign Language, French and German as an option.

French and German A Levels are offered in the Sixth Form depending on numbers.

At both GCSE and A Level we follow the AQA exam specification.

All students have access to:

- Teams
- SentenceBuilders.com
- Seneca
- Quizlet

to practise, consolidate and extend their language learning independently or as tasks set by their class teacher.

MFL Curriculum Intent

We aim to prepare pupils to become global citizens and compete for jobs in the international marketplace by inspiring a lifelong love of languages and developing independent language learning skills irrespective of their prior attainment, background or ethnicity.

Our curriculum also promotes curiosity about and an appreciation of the culture and the way of life of the people living in the countries where the languages are spoken, as well as encouraging a more open view of the world.

We encourage high aspirations, resilience and independence through the opportunities pupils are given. We encourage students of all abilities, backgrounds and need, whilst making reasonable adjustments where and when needed to promote inclusivity.

MFL Curriculum Implementation

Our curriculum shows coherent and sequenced planning allowing pupils to access languages whatever their ability and interests. It has a broad and balanced perspective on the various cultural aspects of each target language. From Years 7 to 11, we cover the identity and culture, local, national, international and global areas of interest as well as current and future study and employment for each language taught. In Years 12 and 13 we cover social issues and trends as well as political and artistic culture of French/German/Spanish speaking countries. The pupils also learn through literature and film.

We use authentic resources particularly through the internet to offer up-to-date learning experiences and to expose the pupils to the four skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking. We have invested in online platforms in order to support our tecahing methods. It also provides and promotes independent learning opportunities to reinforce what has been taught.

Through our lessons we teach pupils to manipulate language to suit their purpose in a range of scenarios, and facilitate understanding of grammar constructions in order to give pupils the skills to progress onto the next stage of their education.

We facilitate the above in numerous ways which include:

- **Challenge** – Expectation are high for all students, irrespective of their ability/ starting point, use of scaffolding strategies to support students during lessons.

- **Explaining** - Breaking down difficult grammar into smaller structures to ease access for all.

- **Modelling** the processes so that all students can apply them in different contexts/topics, across the four different skills needed and with different outcomes.

- **Practice** - Pupils are given regular opportunities to practise aural/oral/reading and writing skills during lessons and at home.

- **Feedback** - Marking and feedback informing planning and addresses misconceptions.

In short we offer pupils opportunities to develop their linguistic, cultural, inter-relational and personal skills through varied and well-paced lessons. We reinforce students' ability to evaluate their work through the use of self-evaluation forms, peer assessment, individual reflection time and feedback forms. This also supports the School's literacy policy as well as the SEND policy.

The MFL department and MFL prefects aim to provide extra-curricular activities such as:

- Language days (including information about careers, courses and job opportunities linked to languages)
- Lunch time support sessions
- GCHQ competitions
- Visiting native speakers

We aim to develop a sense of community by involving our students. Our Year 12 and 13 language pupils gain a tremendous amount of satisfaction and confidence from sharing what they know with younger pupils working alongside the classroom teacher.

<u>MFL Impact:</u>

The MFL department is able to recognise and evaluate its impact through:

- Pupils gaining different learning techniques and transferable skills which they can adapt to other situations. Pupils appreciating other cultures, beliefs, ideas and lifestyles and acquiring knowledge, understanding and tolerance of the world around them.

- Pupils continuing with their chosen language(s) at GCSE, A Level and at university in order to enhance employment prospects.

- Pupils enjoying the ability to converse and use their languages in the work place as well as in less formal contexts. Former pupils often come back and help the department to promote the enjoyment and opportunities of learning languages.

- Pupils becoming well rounded individuals showing determination and resilience when facing challenges.

- Pupils demonstrating creativity and adaptability in their own learning styles and having a positive impact on other pupils.

- Pupils having a desire to improve and be the best they can.

- Internal and external results at A Level showing that students' progression is consistently in line with the national average and at GCSE the results are significantly above the national average.