



MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

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Why is the study of Languages important?

Language means ‘the method of human communication used by a particular community’. The study of a different language will enable you to develop an understanding of another culture and therefore gain a more profound understanding of your own language and culture. Language learning is a higher order skill and will encourage you to plan, solve problems, and manipulate the elements of language learnt to communicate effectively. From Year 7 you will have the exciting opportunity to listen to and read authentic material in the target language on a wide range of topics such as school, leisure time, family & relationships, technology, customs and festivals in other countries, to name but a few. You will become confident to speak in front of others and express your opinions in different ways. You will develop your understanding of grammar both in the target language and in English, and learn how to produce relevant, fluent and coherent pieces of writing. Your study of a Modern Foreign Language will encourage you to think deeply and help you more effectively communicate with others – a great life skill that all universities and employers will appreciate.

Across your study you will explore what life is like for young people in the target language country. Lessons will provide a wide range of opportunities for speaking, listening, reading and writing. Your MFL classroom will be brimming with vocabulary learning in fun and exciting ways, the recall of which is the key to all understanding and communication in the target language. You will engage with the grammar of the new language and use logic, reasoning and problem solving skills to apply it in context. Seems challenging - you are going to love it! MFL will expand your mind!

Big Issues such as the environment, poverty & homelessness, cultural differences across the world, and social issues are all part of the curriculum at GCSE. You will think about the advantages and disadvantages of social media and technology, as well as reflect on your plans for the future in terms of relationships as well as future study and careers. You will be encouraged to develop your own thoughts and opinions on such issues and then express them not in English, but in the target language. What a level to reach! I bet you can't wait to get started...

What skills will the study of Languages teach you?

You are a citizen in this world and you need to know how to communicate effectively with those around you from all backgrounds and cultures. It will teach you to...

- Develop self-determination
- Master the basics – you have to know simple words first before you can create full sentences and meaningful language.
- Develop your memory skills – repetition is the mother of all learning.
- Express your thoughts and opinions in an organised way.
- Listen and read for detail and identify the key points.

- Take risks and be confident.

What will you know and understand from your study of Languages?

You will ...

- understand grammar and apply it in different contexts.
- communicate effectively in writing for a variety of purposes across a range of specified contexts.
- manipulate the language using and adapting a variety of structures and vocabulary with increasing frequency
- interact effectively in speech; initiate and develop conversations, ask and answer questions, respond to unexpected questions.
- identify the overall message, key points, details and opinions in a variety of short and longer spoken or written passages.
- deduce and infer meaning from a variety of spoken or written texts.
- translate into and out of the target language.

How does your study of Languages support your study in other subjects?

Study of any subject in our curriculum takes full advantage of links with other subject areas- we term these as interdisciplinary links and we make the most of them because we know that deep learning requires the transference of knowledge and skills from one topic of learning to another. Once you can transfer your learning across topics and subject areas then you are really mastering what you know and how to apply your understanding and skills.

Modern Foreign Languages touches on so many other subjects; language learning is the development of literacy skills, which are essential to the study of all subjects. In years 7, 8 and 9, students complete a cultural unit that could be about an artist, a book, a film or the study of a custom or festival in the target language culture. At GCSE and A Level, students discuss global and social issues, which link to study in Science, Geography, Religious Education and Citizenship. There are very close links with the study of English in terms of grammatical language, expressing opinions and developing arguments, as well as the use of literary texts both at GCSE and at A level. You will learn methods of thinking and research that are widely applicable to other subject areas helping your thinking in all subjects.

How can you deepen your understanding of Languages?

We want to inspire you with a passion for language learning and a greater appreciation of different cultures. In Year 7 students study both French and Spanish on a rotation, drawing on similarities & differences to both English and the other foreign language, reinforcing cross-topic grammar. This exposes students to the experience of learning a language, allowing you to master the basics while experiencing a window on the world. The MFL department offers lots of great opportunities for you to really engage with this fabulous subject. We also offer enrichment for KS3 where you can explore French and Spanish culture further, learn more about the language and be creative with craft projects. For GCSE students, we offer targeted support or further development to help advance your knowledge and understanding.

How are you assessed in Modern Foreign Languages?

Throughout the 5 years Modern Foreign Language course you are assessed using the following assessment objectives which ensure that you can cumulatively build your subject understanding in preparation for future GCSE and A Level study. At GCSE we study the AQA specification. There are half termly assessment points each year that we term Praising Stars©. For younger years we base our assessment on our subject mapping of the age related expectations across the curriculum, assessing your performance against these expectations. At GCSE we make predictions informed by our holistic assessment of your progress against the key assessment objectives of the GCSE AQA Specification and your aspirational GCSE targets.

Key Assessment Objectives

AO1: LISTENING: understand and respond to spoken language.

AO2: SPEAKING: communicate and interact in speech.

AO3: READING: understand and respond to written language.

AO4: WRITING: communicate in writing.

How can MFL support your future?

Of course we offer the study of GCSE and we encourage your continued study in this fantastic subject. Yet we know that choice and personal interest are important aspects of worthy study. Whether you have continued your study of Languages into GCSE or A level or not you will have accessed this enriching subject and its study will have taught you to think differently and deeply.

Modern Foreign Languages are offered at most prestigious universities either as a single honours or a joint honours subject studied alongside other disciplines e.g. Linguistics, Law, Politics, Tourism, International Studies, History, English, Philosophy. The very fact that you have been able to study linguistic thinking will help your future application be they for colleges, universities, apprenticeships or employment.

Careers that the study of MFL supports include:

- Translator
- Interpreter
- Teacher in the UK or abroad.
- Lawyer
- Marketing executive
- Diplomatic service officer
- International aid/ development worker
- Tour manager
- International hotel or catering manager
- Media/ advertising
- Logistics
- IT

	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Autumn 1	<p>Mastery of learning languages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to learn vocabulary • Phonics/ pronunciation • Giving pinions <p>Super hero. (French)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about family • Use 'to be' and 'to have.' • Understand adjective agreements. <p>School (Spanish)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about school subjects. • Give extended opinions. • Talk about school timetables. 	<p>Technology & Social Media.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop speaking skills – photo card. • Phonics/ pronunciation • Talk about technology & what it is used for. • Talk about the advantages & disadvantages of social media. 	<p>Cultural understanding of target language speaking countries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental issues • Social issues <p>Festivals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Typical festivals in TL speaking countries • Ways to celebrate • Opinions on festivals 	<p>Theme: Identity & Culture. Topic: Technology in everyday life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about technology & what it is used for. • Give opinions on technology & social media. • Describe the advantages & Disadvantages of social media. • Writing skills – 90/ 150 words & translation into TL. 	<p>All themes & Topics. Skills focus writing – improving writing & translation skills.</p>
Autumn 2	<p>Super hero. (French)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe people physically/ personality. • Understand adjective agreements. • Describe a superhero - powers. • Develop listening & reading skills. <p>School (Spanish)</p>	<p>Holidays & Travel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about where you would like to/ are going to go on holiday. • Talk about transport & accommodation. • Use the proper future/ conditional tenses. 	<p>The world of work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding job adverts • Being able to apply for jobs • Preparing for interviews • Future ambitions 	<p>Theme: Local, national etc. areas of interest. Topic: Holidays & Travel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about holiday destinations, transport & accommodation. • Use the present, past & future tense. • Talk about ideal holidays. • Speaking skills – conversation. 	<p>All themes & Topics. Skills focus listening & reading – improving exam technique for all question types.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe school facilities & activities you can do there. Consolidate use of adjectives. Develop writing skills. 				
Spring 1	<p>Mastery - The present tense.</p> <p>Leisure time. (Spanish)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk about sports/ activities in the present tense. Develop extended opinions. <p>School (French)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk about school subjects. Give extended opinions. Talking about activities at school in the present tense. 	<p>Cultural Unit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A project to learn about a 'town' in a target language country. Describe places in town/ activities you can do there. 	<p>Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding of key issues in the world Suggest solutions and compare UK with TL countries Green campaign in school 	<p>Theme: Current & Future Study & Employment.</p> <p>Topic: Life at school/ Education post-16.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk about uniform & rules. Talk about plans for future study/ university. Writing skills – 90/ 150 words & translation into TL 	<p>All themes & Topics.</p> <p>Skills focus speaking – development of role play/ photo card skills and preparation of all topics for conversation.</p>
Spring 2	<p>Mastery - The future tense</p> <p>Leisure time. (Spanish)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk about sports/ activities in the future tense. Develop listening & reading skills. <p>School (French)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe school facilities & activities you can do there. 	<p>At home</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe houses and rooms in a house Talk about ideal homes using the conditional tense Develop listening & reading skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop speaking skills <p>Healthy lifestyle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diet Health issues Body image and the impact of social media 	<p>Theme: Current & Future Study & Employment</p> <p>Topic: Jobs & Careers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk about apprenticeships & training. Give advantages & disadvantages of different jobs/ careers Listening & Reading skills (incl translation into Eng) 	<p>Revision of all key topics and skills.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan a trip to a school in a French speaking country using the future tense. 				
Summer 1	<p>Mi Vida (Spanish)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe who is in your family and what they are like (appearance, personality) Use of 'to have' give extended quality opinions <p>Leisure time (French)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk about sports/ activities Give quality extended opinions on leisure. Develop listening & reading skills. 	<p>Eating out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn transactional language to order/ buy things. Develop speaking skills - role play. 	<p>Leisure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk about types of music Extended opinions on music and performances Profiles of singers Talk about types of TV shows 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revision of all key topics and skills. 	External Examinations.
Summer 2	<p>Mi Vida (Spanish)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities with family in 2 tenses. Develop extended writing skills. Explore cultural aspects of Spanish speaking countries <p>Leisure time (French)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk about your free time activities in the present & future tense. Develop extended writing skills. Explore cultural aspects of French speaking countries. 	<p>The Fixer (Cultural Unit)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn about a music festival in a target language country. Be able to book a hotel or restaurant. Give directions. Understand vocabulary for different shops. Describe a recent visit to a festival. 	<p>Leisure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk about types of films & give opinions Film projects <p>GCSE ready preparation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop speaking and extended writing skills Develop listening and reading skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revision of all key topics and skills. 	