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!

At GCSE we study the AQA detail specification.

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 and 8, 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?

The MFL department offers lots of great opportunities for you to really engage with this fabulous subject. We have many exciting opportunities to enrich your linguist experiences. There are regular trips abroad where you immerse yourself in the cultural life of the language or languages you study. Past visits have included trips to Brussels, where you can visit a chocolate factory and see the headquarters of the European Parliament. Also, we visit the beautiful capital city of Paris, where we spend a week practising our French, sampling French food specialties, enjoying the views of the city from atop the Eiffel Tower, appreciating the splendid artworks in the Musée du Louvre and the Musée d'Orsay as well as the thrills of Parc Disneyland. For our Spanish students, Barcelona is a city that invites you to sample the local delicacies in a tapas restaurant, the amazing artworks of Dali, Miró and Picasso, the bustling streets around Las Ramblas in the heart of the city as well as a grand tour of the Camp Nou stadium, home of FC. Barcelona. Fun times are also had at the aquarium and the beach, with excursions to the town of Figueres, Lloret de Mar to Waterworld and Port Aventura theme park. Additionally, shorter trips have been to Lille for their Christmas markets and even to Manchester markets in December as a reward trip.

In school, we always aim to support charities and in September, students raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support through our annual coffee morning - held in either French or Spanish. Students are waiters and serve whilst practising their French/Spanish for this wonderful cause.

In order to inform students of the pathways that are available post GCSE, visitors from Routes into Languages as well as local Sixth-form colleges have come into school to deliver bespoke packages and students are also able to visit the MFL departments on trips to these establishments.

Other enrichment opportunities have included the possibility of learning GCSE French as an extra qualification after school, which has been very successful in the past. Furthermore, Portuguese beginners' lessons for our keen linguists have been held and supported by native speaking students. Display boards around the department show the wealth of different languages spoken within school - by both staff and students - who have prepared a display of key greetings in languages from Polish to Hungarian.

Future plans hope to include the school's participation in the annual Spelling Bee with schools across OGAT, as well as beginners' enrichment lessons in German.

Get involved! Become a linguist.

How are you assessed in Modern Foreign Languages?

Throughout the 5 year 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. There are 6 assessment points each year that we term Praising Stars©. We assess how students at their current stage of study are on track to reach their end of stage targets which are formulated on aspirational expectation from their KS2 starting points. We make an informed prediction from our holistic assessments based on our subject mapping of expectation across the MFL curriculum.

Key Assessment Objectives

AOI: 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 links to local colleges where A-Level languages are taught are strong; we offer transition lessons and taster opportunities where you can visit and experience what the MFL departments have to offer 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 gained access to 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 it 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

	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR IO	YEAR II
	French (Ist year)	French (2nd year)/Spanish – ab-initio	French – ab-initio/ Spanish (3rd year)	Spanish(2nd year) / French(4th year)	Spanish (5th year)
Autumn	Introduction to the target language.	French: Technology & Social	French – ab-initio: Introduction to the target	Theme I: Identity and	Theme I: Identity and Culture.
	 High-frequency words Phonics/ pronunciation Memory techniques Gender M/F Introduction to Free Time unit. Opinions Articles Adjectives Using negatives Infinitive verbs - 	 Media. Types of technology Activities using technology Comparing technology and saying what you prefer 	 language. High-frequency words Phonics/ pronunciation Memory techniques Gender M/F Greetings Introduction to Free Time unit. Opinions Indefinite/definite articles Adjectives Using negatives 	 Opinions Verb recall – Present Tense Music/TV/Film Event tickets Future plans Preterite recall/Last weekend Eating out 	Customs and

		 High-frequency words Phonics/ pronunciation Memory techniques Gender M/F Greetings Introduction to Free Time unit. Opinions and Extended opinions Articles Positive and negative adjectives Using negatives Infinitive verbs - regular AR Present Tense verb conjugation 	 Spanish: Welcome to Madrid. Study of a Spanish-speaking city Tourist sites Buying tickets Booking accommodation Travel and directions Activities in a city Conditional Tense revisit what you would do there Past Tense revisit 		Theme 2: Local, national etc. areas of interest. Social Issues. • Diet • Healthy lifestyle
Autumn 2	 Free Time. Present Tense verbs Extended opinions 	French: Music, Film, Arranging a date. • music genres	French – ab-initio: My Family Life and Friends. • Pets	Theme I: Identity and Culture. Family and Friends	Mock Examinations.

negative adjectives Me and My Family. Pets Numbers Family Names and ages Family and free time Indefinite/definite article Cultural awareness of Christmas traditions	 preferences and opinions study of a French sons film genres study and review of a short film question words arranging a date with a friend buying tickets Spanish – ab-initio: Me and My Family. Pets Numbers Family Verb to have Names and ages Family and free time Indefinite/definite article Cultural awareness of Christmas traditions 	 Family Names and ages Family and free time Develop listening & Reading skills My Celebrations. Cultural awareness of Christmas traditions Conditional Tense with infinitive structure. Traditional food and recipes Spanish: School preferences Dreams related to past experiences Ways to make money Future plans and studies Conditional and Imperfect Tenses Skills for the work of work Understanding job adverts 	 Basics recall- name/physical descriptions/personality/ ages/birthdays Relationships Qualities of others Marriage and future plans Theme 2: Local, national etc. areas of interest. Home. Home – description and opinions Furniture Ideal home Conditional Tense Describing town Advantages and disadvantages Use of poder/pouvoir 	national etc. areas of interest. Social Issues. • Healthy lifestyles • Charity and voluntary work • Environment • Global issues (poverty/homeless ness/inequality)
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Spring I	Personal	French:	French – ab-initio:	Theme 2: Local, national	All themes &
-1 0	descriptions.	Holidays.	My Personal Life.	etc. areas of interest.	Topics
	 Describe people 	• Holiday destinations	Personal descriptions.	Home Town.	Skills focus speaking –
	physically/	using the verb 'to go'	• Describe people	• Town v countryside - using	development of role
	personality.	 Travel 	physically/ personality.	comparatives and	play/ photo card skills
	 giving opinions 	 Holiday 	 giving opinions 	superlatives	and preparation of all
	 Use 'to be' and 'to 	accommodation	• Key irregular present	 Shopping and clothes 	topics for
	have.	 Comparing 	tense verbs	 Writing/Speaking skills 	conversation.
	 Understand 	destinations	• Use 'to be' and 'to have.		Speaking
	adjective	 Cultural link to 	 Understand adjective 		Preparation.
	*	destinations	agreements.	Future Study &	Roleplay
	agreements.		 Plurals 	Employment. My Studies.	Photocard
	Plurals	• Holiday activities in		Opinions about school	General
	Develop listening	the present tense	Develop listening &	Timetable	Conversation
	& Reading skills	 Adverbs of time 	Reading skills	• Facilities	
		Weather		Describing school - day/life/	Speaking Mock
			Spanish:		Examinations.
		Spanish – ab-initio:	Healthy Lifestyles:		1 × 1
		Personal descriptions		9	All Themes &
		Describe people	• Food habits now and in		Topics
		physically/	the past		Skills focus listening &
		personality.	• What you intend to eat in	ו	reading – improving
		 giving opinions 	the future		exam technique for all
		• Use 'to be' (ser and	Imperfect Tense		question typ <mark>es</mark> .
		estar) and 'to have.	Comparing previous		Skills focus writing
		Understand adjective	e eating habits		flipped to <mark>sp</mark> eaking.
		agreements.	 Buying food and drink 		Revision of:
					 TI Family

	 Plurals Develop listening & Reading skills 	 Booking a table/Restaurant 		 T1 Leisure T2 Home Town/House T1 Technology T2 Travel and Tourism T3 My Studies T3 Life at School
Fime. Verbs to do/play Partitive article Describing what you are like – physical character and personality	 French: Comparing holidays to in those in French speaking countries Past tense. Regular/Irregulars past verbs Describing a past holiday Spanish – ab-initio: Sports and Free Time. Verbs to do/play Use of 'a' with definite article 		 Future Study & Employment. My Studies. Talking about school rules and stresses Discussing the advantages and disadvantages of school Describing one's ideal school Theme I: Identity and Culture. Technology. 3 tenses – technology and 	Revision of all key topics and skills: • Themes 1/2/3 in LRVV. 2nd Mock Examinations. Speaking Revision. • Roleplay • Photocard • General Conversation

		 describing what you and others do and play 	 Describing health issues such as drugs, smoking and alcohol Body Image - healthy v good-looking? 		
Summer	Town	French:	French – ab-initio:	Theme I: Identity and	Final Speaking
I	 What there is 	Festivals and	Schools around the world	Culture. Technology.	Preparation.
	 What you do in 	Celebrations:	 Talk about school 	• Speaking and Writing focus	 Roleplay
	town	 typical French 	subjects/teachers.	on technology across 3	 Photocard
	 To go 	celebrations	• Give extended opinions	tenses	General
	• Use of 'pour' with	Connected activities	• Describe the school day		Conversation
	infinitives	at a celebration	 Telling the time 	Theme 2: Local, national	A 14 18
	• What you are	 Describing events 	• Use the regular present	etc. areas of interest.	External
	going to do in the	 Future and 	tense for activities at	Travel and Tourism.	Examinations:
	future	Conditional tense -	school	Destinations	Speaking. (2nd April -
		saying what you will	• Days of the week	 Travel/transport 	17th May 2024 TBC.)
		and would like to do	,	 Accommodation 	
		there	Spanish:		Revision of all key
		Giving reasons for	Globals and Social Issues.	• Describing holiday activities	topics and skills:
		choices in different	 World issues 	using different tenses	Themes 1/2/3 in LRW
		tenses.	Global problems and	• Describing a future/ideal	
			solutions	holiday and comparing	× 1 / /
		Spanish – ab-initio:	• Description of an ideal	different types of holidays	
		Town	world	Using the past and imperfect	
		 What there is 		tenses to describe a past	
				holiday	

		 What you do in town To go Use of 'para' with infinitives What you are going to do in the future 			
Summer	Schools around the	French:	French – ab-initio:	Revision/Speaking	External
2	world.	Birthdays and	My Future, My Careers	Preparation.	Examinations:
	 Talk about school subjects/teachers. Give extended opinions Describe the school day Telling the time Use the regular present tense for activities at school Days of the week 	 Town Describing what you typically do during Christmas/birthdays/ Eid Giving positive and negative opinions using key adjectives Describing a past celebration 	 and Technology. Jobs Describing key activities you would do in a job 	 Revision linked to all themes Practice question styles at all tiers Theme I Speaking revision of Roleplay and Photocard – linking to Go2verbs Theme 2 Speaking revision of Roleplay and Photocard – linking to Go2verbs Theme 3 Speaking revision 	Listening and Reading. (4th June 2024 AM TBC.) External Examinations: Writing (10th June 2024 PM TBC.)

•	Give extended	 Speaking skills 	
	opinions	 Writing flipped to 	
•	Describe the school	speaking	
	day		
•	Telling the time		
•	Use the regular		3357 P ~
	present tense for		
	activities at school		
•	Days of the week		