

Subject: Modern Foreign Languages

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Subject teachers: Rebecca Hilton

Department aims:

The MFL department aims to raise the profile of learning different languages in our academy. Spanish and French are taught in KS3 and both languages are offered at KS4.

Learning a foreign language is a life skill and provides an opening to other cultures. Through the teaching and learning, students build a communicative repertoire, enabling them to express their ideas and thoughts in another language. Their learning at KS3 provides a foundation for learning further languages in the future, and as students learn how the new language works, they become more aware of the structure of English, which improves literacy

Assessment

Pupils are assessed on an ongoing basis in French and Spanish to help them realise that language learning is something that should not and cannot be 'crammed for' before one end of year assessment. Language learning is a continual process that builds constantly on previous vocabulary and grammar mastery. For this reason we recommend regular vocabulary learning, revision and consolidation from class notes and from **Home Learning Booklets** provided to pupils in each topic. Assessment tasks test listening, reading, speaking and writing skills alongside grammar manipulation and translation.

Clubs/ afterschool activities / enrichment

- Students in KS3 are offered the opportunity to: join the pen pal club where we are making links with students in other countries, become a language ambassador and support the language activities during the year.
- There will be a trip to either France or Spain organized each year for all KS3 students and KS4 students that are studying languages.
- Students with additional language skills will be encouraged to take a formal qualification in that language if a qualification exists.

Year 7: Students are taught French and Spanish

The topics of study are: Talking about yourself, Family and friends, School, Hobbies, Where you live

Year 8: Students are taught French and Spanish

The topics of study are: Holidays, Festivals, Food, Leisure time, Film studies

Year 9:

All year 9 students will start to study the AQA GCSE course in French and Spanish, to prepare them for the new 1-9 graded GCSE. Students will be prepared for assessments in listening, speaking, reading, writing and translation.

The topics of study are:

Theme 1: Identity and Culture

Relationships with family and friends, Technology in everyday life, Free-time activities, Food and eating out, Festivals and customs.

Year 10:

Students that have opted to continue with the GCSE course in either French or Spanish, will build on from their introduction to the GCSE course in Year 9. Differentiated tasks will be set for higher and foundation students.

Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest

Where I live, Charity and voluntary work, Healthy and unhealthy living, Environment, Poverty and homelessness, Holiday and travel, Regions of Spain.

Year 11:

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

School and subjects, Life at college, University or work, Jobs career choices and ambitions,

How can I help support my child's learning Languages?

Home study booklets are on the homework gateway.

Students are encouraged to purchase revision guides sold in school, these can be used to revise both years 10 and 11.

Exam practise books are available for KS4.

Useful websites

BBCBITESIZE revision website is recommended for all year groups for additional research and revision activities

<https://quizlet.com/>

<https://www.linguascope.com/>

<https://www.activelearn.com/>

<http://www.wordreference.com/conj/FrVerbs.aspx>

Students are encouraged to develop their Spanish further by reading and listening to authentic language online. We recommend the following:

Authentic news and current affairs

1 www.noticiasfacil.es/ES/NOTICIAS/Paginas/default.aspx/

2 <http://cnnspanol.cnn.com/category/ninos/>

