EXETER SCHOOL



Teacher of Spanish

(Maternity Cover) Full time

From April 2020

**Job Description**

Exeter School seeks an enthusiastic and well-qualified graduate to join this strong and friendly department to cover maternity leave from April 2020.

The post would suit an experienced teacher who can teach Spanish up to A Level. The ability to teach French or German to at least Key Stage 3 would be advantageous. The applicant will be keen to contribute to the broader life of the school through cultural, sporting or other extra-curricular activities, and possibly accompanying overseas residentials.

**Description of the Modern Foreign Languages Department**

There are currently 6 full-time and 3 part-time classroom teachers in the Senior School MFL department, together with 3 Foreign Language Assistants (FLAs). The Head and Assistant Head of Department administer modern language provision throughout the Junior and Senior Schools, in particular working closely with the Head of Classics.

In the Senior School we offer French, German and Spanish from absolute beginner to Oxbridge entrance levels. Pupils in Year 7 follow a carousel of taster courses in French, German and Spanish as well as Latin, from which they choose any two subjects to study in depth in Years 8 and 9. All pupils continue with at least one modern language to IGCSE, with around 20% then choosing to take two languages. We follow the Pearson Edexcel IGCSE courses.

Take-up at A Level is good: in the current Sixth Form we have 12 pupils studying French, 6 pupils studying German and 14 pupils studying Spanish. We follow the Pearson Edexcel A Level courses. Our results in public examinations are strong at all levels, and the majority of A Level linguists go on to study languages either as their main degree subject or in combination with other disciplines. Several have gone on to study at Oxbridge, and in recent years A Level linguists have proceeded to study *ab initio* Russian and Mandarin as well as continuing with their existing language. Several former pupils have recently returned to talk to current pupils about their careers involving languages in the fields of journalism, TV advertising and literary research.

The language courses in Years 4 and 5 in our Junior School are taught by members of the Senior School MFL department and each teacher helps deliver the KS2 programme. The range of language provision was broadened in the Junior School in September 2017, with pupils now studying French in Year 3, Spanish in Year 4 and German in Year 5. Latin is then taught in Year 6.

We have a large suite of rooms in a modern building shared with the Classics department and the Sixth Form Centre. Every teacher has their own classroom base, the FLAs have their own seminar room, and the departmental resource room / work space is the hub of our activities. All classrooms have top-quality audio-visual equipment, data projectors, visualisers, and Apple TV and all members of the department make extensive use of this technology. A number of language lessons are also taught in the school’s Wolfson computing suites, to allow individual control of soundtracks in comprehension work, and to drill vocabulary and structures using the Memrise and Quizlet courses we have created in-house. The department believes in having every child build a firm grammatical base from which they may communicate freely in the target language, and a balance between using 21st century technology and more traditional classroom pedagogy supports this.

All members of staff are equipped with a networked iPad, and iPad deployment to pupils will begin in February 2020 with the Year 9 cohort.

Outside the classroom, we have worked closely as educational consultants with the Onatti Theatre group for at least a decade, hosting plays in all of our languages for our L5 pupils. We have a fine track record of success in the Goethe Institut competitions, and some pupils enter the Institute of Linguists’ Linguistics Olympiad, as well as the Oxford German Network and Cambridge University essay competitions. The department also has a well-established programme of foreign visits and exchanges to which all MFL staff contribute. Year 7 pupils are offered a 5-day French-immersion activity holiday at the renowned Château de la Baudonnière in Normandy to round off their first year, and the Year 11 language school/homestay trips to France and Spain are always oversubscribed. Furthermore, we are immensely proud of our German exchange with the Scharnhorst Gymnasium in Hildesheim, now in its 54th year.

All of this means the Modern Languages department at Exeter School is at an exciting stage in its development, and the ideal candidate – one who possesses first-rate subject knowledge of Spanish and the ability to communicate it inspirationally – will find it a most rewarding environment.

MFL, October 2019