**Modern Languages**

The Modern Languages department is large, vibrant and successful.  It comprises seven full-time members of staff and three language assistants.  There are individual Heads of Department for French, German, Spanish and Mandarin. The Head of French is also Head of Modern Languages.

All pupils learn French, Spanish and Latin in Year 7, as well as having the choice to study either German or Mandarin. In Year 8 pupils are asked to choose three languages from those studied in Year 7.

At GCSE numbers are consistently strong across all languages, with two classes in each modern European language and a single set of Mandarin; French, German and Spanish follow the Edexcel IGCSE syllabus whilst Mandarin follows the Edexcel GCSE syllabus. The department attracts healthy numbers of students at A level, for which French, German and Spanish follow the AQA syllabus.  An increasing number of our students apply to read Modern Languages at university, including Oxford and Cambridge.

Given the school’s position close to central London, many European families who want their children to experience an English education, send their sons to Eltham College. This brings with it the benefit (and occasional challenge) of having a handful of near native speakers in each year group.

Lessons are taught in dedicated classrooms in the new Turberville building, which provides the Modern Languages department unrivalled facilities and the very latest in technology and classroom design, including three allocated tutorial-style classrooms for our Language Assistants’ lessons. All classrooms are equipped with data-projectors/interactive whiteboards and audio equipment.  The school's wireless network allows internet access from any languages classroom. Teachers may also book a set of Surface tablets for their classes and the department is keen to develop further a technology-

enhanced approach to teaching and learning.

In Years 10 and 11, pupils benefit from additional small group work with the Languages Assistants who also provide one-to-one supplementary tuition to all Sixth Formers studying languages.  All languages departments offer a wide range of DVDs and literature, which pupils are encouraged to borrow on a regular basis. The Modern and Classical Languages Society is an important new feature of the department and all Sixth Form linguists are expected to attend the talks. We also organise trips to the theatre and cinema.

The department places great emphasis on the importance of time spent abroad.  There are exchanges and study trips offered to all pupils studying languages from Year 9 upwards and regularly attract good numbers of students.  All Sixth Form linguists are strongly encouraged to participate in a study trip or exchange.

From September 2020, the school will become co-educational and welcome girls into Year 7.

**French**

There are currently two full time and three part time teachers of French in the department, with a specialist part-time Language Assistant. French is also taught from year 3 in the Junior School.

All pupils at Eltham College study French in Year 7 and the vast majority continue to study French as an option in Year 8. Many students go on to take French at IGCSE and numbers remain healthy in the Sixth Form.  Currently, our examination boards are Edexcel IGCSE and AQA at A level.

There are annual French study trips for pupils in Year 11, the Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth. These trips not only provide intensive language tuition but also enable pupils to develop their awareness of French culture. There is also an annual trip to Parc Astérix and Paris for pupils in Year 7.

The French department attracts strong take-up at all levels, which bucks national trends, and it is very proud of its strong track record in public examinations: at IGCSE, the department’s three-year average has seen 95.8% of students achieving A\*-B.  At A level, 100% of candidates have achieved A\*-B in recent years, with several pupils going on to study French at highly selective universities.

**German**

There are currently two teachers of German in the department with a specialist part-time Language Assistant.

Pupils at Eltham College have the option to choose German from Year 7 and many go on to take it at IGCSE and beyond.  Currently, our examination boards are Edexcel IGCSE and AQA at A level.

There are annual German trips for pupils in Year 11, the Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth, often to a language school in Berlin.  These trips not only provide intensive language tuition but also enable pupils to develop their awareness of German culture.

Traditionally German has been very strong at Eltham College.  Unlike in many schools, German has a strong take-up at all levels, which bucks national trends. Results in recent years have been very good: at IGCSE, the department’s three-year average has seen 93.1% of students achieving A\*-B.  At A level, 92.3% of candidates achieve similar grades with several pupils going on to study German at university, including Oxbridge.

***The post holder’s responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young persons for whom he / she is responsible, or with whom he / she comes into contact will be to adhere to and ensure compliance with the School’s Safeguarding Policy Statement at all times. If, in the course of carrying out the duties of the post the post holder becomes aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of children in the School he / she must report any concerns to his / her Line Manager or the School’s Designated Safeguarding Lead.***