

LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

Departmental Staff and Resources:

There are currently six teachers of Spanish and/or French within the department. The department is well resourced and situated in its own block, each classroom benefitting from an interactive whiteboard. Students study either French or Spanish and the uptake of a language is strongly encouraged at GCSE.

Curriculum Summary:

Key Stage 3

Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 have five, one hour, French or Spanish lessons a fortnight. They are taught in mixed ability groups in year 7 and placed in sets in years 8 and 9. The course books used are Studio and ¡Mira! and these are supported by the front of class teaching resource, ActiveTeach. The emphasis is on spontaneous talk and the learning and application of grammar.

The trips currently offered are to Saint-Omer in Year 7 and the Christmas market in Lille in Year 8. Key Stage 4
A growing number of students are opting for a foreign language at GCSE, due to the importance of the English Baccalaureate.

In Years 10 and 11, there are five, one hour, French or Spanish lessons a fortnight. Students follow the AQA French or Spanish GCSE course. The course book used is the AQA French/Spanish GCSE, supported by Kerboodle. Many students take part in a residential trip to Paris or Barcelona to enhance their knowledge of the French or Spanish language and culture.

Spanish Department results remained strong in 2016, with 93.5% of candidates achieving grades A*-C in GCSE Spanish.

Key Stage 5

We offer AS and A-levels in French and Spanish. The curriculum allocation is ten hours a fortnight.

This is an excellent opportunity to join a highly successful MFL department and have a significant role in the continued development of Modern Languages across the whole age range. We believe it is important that students are able to communicate with others in their native tongue and that they develop communication skills which they will take with them into their personal and working lives.

Helen French
Head of MFL