



## Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys

### **Modern Foreign Languages Faculty**

The Modern Foreign Language Department consists of a committed, enthusiastic and energetic team of language teachers, both native and non-native speakers as well as the Foreign Language Assistants who play an important role in developing pupils' spoken competence and raising students' awareness of the culture of countries where the target language is spoken.

Our aim is to develop a life-long love of language learning in our students, to build their cultural awareness and to ensure that every student is able to reach his/her full potential. We will achieve this by delivering outstanding language lessons, which are well-structured, engaging and relevant to learners.

All pupils will begin studying two languages in Year 7 which they will carry forward into Yr8. Students are strongly advised to continue with at least one language in Yr9 and those who demonstrate a flair for languages could also take on a second language in year 9. In Years 10 and 11 pupils will work towards a GCSE qualification in one or two of their chosen languages. With a strong record of results, many students seek opportunities to read languages at top universities as a single or joint honours degree after completing their A Levels at our school.

We currently have links with schools in France, Germany and Spain and the department organises exchanges and visits abroad each year along with many other enrichment opportunities organised by the MFL Society within the school.

#### **About the Spanish Department**

The Spanish Department is a successful and supportive department and one which is well regarded by students. There are two members of the MFL department who currently teach Spanish throughout the school. The department is well qualified and benefits from good resources. It is housed in its own purpose-built block with interactive whiteboards in all rooms. It is the fastest growing of the three languages taught in the school, with numbers strong in 6th form. There is a commitment to an academic approach to language teaching; grammar (throughout) and literature (in the 6th form) are important elements of the courses.

Teaching at Key Stage 3 is arranged by house tutor groups and there is no setting. We aim to offer a challenging and enjoyable range of activities in line with the selective ability of our students who are well motivated and produce good work. At Key Stage 4, students are taught in mixed ability option groups. The department follows the AQA specification at GCSE and results are consistently good.

Numbers for AS Level are currently running at 15, Spanish being a popular subject at this level for a range of students. At A2 numbers are also healthy, with many students continuing to take an interest in the subject at degree level.

A Level teaching is shared so that staff can teach to their own strengths and specializations. Each student is usually taught by two members of staff. Preferably, the successful candidate would also be able to

prepare students for Oxbridge application; every year we have a number who go on to read at least one language at Russell Group universities and in recent years have had a number apply, and 2 get in, to Oxford or Cambridge. We follow the Edexcel Spanish course, in which literature is the cultural component of the Unit 4 essay paper.

Members of staff in the Spanish department offer a range of activities to enhance the students' experiences. We run a very popular Key Stage 4 study educational trip to Barcelona and have a long standing exchange with a school in Barcelona as well for the 6th form. There is also the possibility of work experience in Barcelona in conjunction with our partner school on an individual basis. The department also benefits from a permanently employed assistant who works with students in Key Stages 4 and 5 and assists with preparation of oral assessments.

The successful applicant for this post will be required to teach throughout all key stages. We are looking to appoint a teacher with excellent subject knowledge and expertise, highly motivated, experienced and motivated who can communicate their enthusiasm for Spanish to the students. The successful candidate will display a passion for the subject and an innovative approach to delivering Spanish at different levels. The appointee will be someone who will enjoy being part of a highly motivated and successful team whilst, at the same time, taking a lead role in promoting Spanish further within the school.

### **About the French Department**

The French department is a dedicated and supportive department which consists of three teachers currently teaching the subject. We are based in the MFL block which is well equipped with resources including interactive whiteboards in each room.

In Key Stage 3, currently half of Year 7 and Year 8 students study French, alongside another language. In Year 9, French has continually maintained good numbers opting to continue and then at GCSE level. Groups are of mixed ability and we aim for 100% pass rate at grade 5 and above, with a large number achieving the top grades. We follow the AQA specification. Our students show good motivation and an enjoyment of language learning and can produce work of very high quality.

At A Level we have mixed groups and typically have good numbers of students. This year we have 12 in Year 12 and 14 in Year 13. The teaching is shared between two teachers according to their strengths and interests. We regularly have students going on to continue their study of French at university including Russell group universities and Oxford and Cambridge.

We offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities including a Year 10 exchange with a school in Toulouse and a Sixth Form visit to Montpellier. A level students benefit from weekly sessions with our permanent French Assistant.

The successful candidate will have excellent subject knowledge, an enthusiastic approach and be willing to contribute as part of a committed and hard-working team. We hope that the successful candidate will also be able to contribute to the extra-curricular opportunities offered in modern languages.