

**LAWRENCE SHERIFF SCHOOL**

A National Teaching School

**Modern Foreign Languages department**

**We are looking for a subject teacher who demonstrates passion and enthusiasm in their teaching of Modern Foreign Languages and who has the potential to continue to develop this high-performing and innovative department.**

The main aims of the department are to motivate and inspire students to learn Modern Foreign Languages across the curriculum, and create a positive environment for language learning to take place. It is vital that we capture the interest of students in order to ensure that motivation remains high across all of the age groups and that there are an increasing number of double linguists.

To do this, there are now enrichment options for both languages in all the Key Stages; these explore the use of film in different languages. Students are able to improve their reading, listening and vocabulary through watching these films either in the target language with English subtitles, or in English with French/German subtitles. These enrichment activities have proven to be popular amongst the students, with classes containing consistently high numbers.

The Languages department regularly organises study visits to France and Germany. Year 8 go annually to Paris, and KS4 and KS5 students are given the opportunity to go to Germany and KS5 French students visit Paris.

These trips are extremely important, as one of the best ways of learning a language is by visiting the country itself and speaking it. Moreover, such visits give an important insight into the target culture; most of the students return with an improved knowledge and motivation.

Students are also taught about the importance of languages for their futures. Every year, Year 8 students attend a seminar organised by the University of Warwick, called ‘Why Study Languages’; this highlights the numerous careers where languages play an important role. It is also pointed out to students that universities look extremely favourably on candidates with language qualifications. We hope that both of these help maintain the motivation of students.

Aside from motivation, the Modern Foreign Languages department aims to consolidate on the excellent exam results of the past few years. To do this, the department have worked together to create a bank of resources and to share ideas and good practice. We also organise regular lunchtime and after school study sessions to support underperforming students. In this way, we have seen a clear improvement in our GCSE and A-Level examination results.

All students are taught two lessons of French and German in Years 7 and 8.  In Year 8, all students also have a lesson of Spanish a week.  At the end of Year 8, students opt to take two out of the three languages in Year 9, before making a decision about their GCSE Language choice at the end of Year 9.  Students are prepared for the AQA GCSE course in years 10 and 11.  In Year 12 and 13, we run the AQA courses for both French and German.  In all age groups, the teaching is innovative and aims to go beyond what is stated in the specifications.