



Fulford School

Modern Foreign Languages Department Details

Background to the Department

The MFL Department at Fulford School currently has an enthusiastic and talented team of 6 language teachers, 2 of whom are part time. All staff within the department have the ability to teach both French and Spanish.

The department itself is well-resourced. We currently have the use of 5 dedicated language teaching rooms, alongside other teaching rooms within school, which all have the benefit of interactive white boards and internet access. The department also receives administrative support for photocopying, filing, typing, phone calls and backing books.

Current Context and Provision

Key Stage 3

The majority of pupils study both French and Spanish in Years 7 and 8. In Year 7, pupils are currently taught in mixed-ability groups with 3 lessons a fortnight in each language. In Year 8, they are currently taught in a mixture of ability and mixed-ability sets with 3 lessons a fortnight in each language.

Key Stage 4

All pupils now make their GCSE options choices during Year 8 due to the introduction of the three-year Key Stage 4 in the school. Take-up of languages has traditionally been very healthy, with around 60% or above opting to study one or more languages at GCSE.

Having recently introduced Spanish at Key Stage 3 in place of German, pupils will now be able to opt to study French and/or Spanish at GCSE. The allocation of lessons per fortnight is as follows across the year groups:

Year 9: 4 lessons a fortnight (per language studied)

Year 10: 5 lessons a fortnight (per language studied)

Year 11: 5 lessons a fortnight (per language studied)

We follow the AQA course for both languages at GCSE.

Key Stage 5

At AS and A level, pupils have the opportunity to study both French and Spanish. Whilst uptake for both languages is certainly comparable with that of MFL subjects in other schools, we are looking to increase uptake of both languages at A level in future years. Once again, we follow the AQA course for both languages.

Exchanges and Visits

Exchanges and visits are important aspects of the work of the department and historically the school has participated in a range of exchanges and study visits to France and Germany. Given recent staffing changes and the recent introduction of Spanish at Fulford, there are now opportunities available to set up exchanges and visits to both France and Spain in the future.



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