

Department Overview

The Governors wish to appoint a dynamic, innovative and highly effective leader with drive and determination to lead our committed and ambitious MFL department in raising the attainment of all our students from September 2019. Ashton Community Science College is an 11-16 mixed school with 800 pupils on roll and was rated as Good in all areas by Ofsted in the last inspection in 2018.

The MFL department is small but dedicated, forward thinking and aspirational, consisting of 2 staff; the head of department and a full time teacher. Our deputy head also teaches some languages. We are part of the DFE Language Hub project and we expect the new head of department to continue with the exciting work that has taken place over the last 2 academic years as a member of this hub.

Classrooms are well-equipped with a Promethean interactive whiteboard and the department has recently purchased resources to support lesson planning and delivery for all KS3 and KS4 classes in order to fulfil the needs of the new curriculum. Colleagues in the department work closely together and support one another, constantly reflecting on their own practice and supporting each other both formally and informally. They are innovative and supportive of change and new approaches.

In KS3 French is allocated two hours of curriculum time each week during which a variety of topics which allow students the opportunity to talk about themselves, their family and friends will be studied. Opportunities are also given for students to exchange information about their past and current experiences and to discuss their future plans. Options are chosen in Year 9 with the GCSE course then being studied over two years. We follow the AQA French specification.

The MFL Department is vibrant and forward thinking. A wide range of Teaching and Learning techniques are used to engage and enthuse the students. Throughout all the topics it is our aim to fuel interest for learning a Modern Foreign Language. We encourage the use of the target language as a means for communicating within the classroom. It is our opinion that when the work is enjoyable and fun and pitched at an appropriate level, pupils are far more willing to communicate with each other in a foreign language and learning is far more likely to take place.

We are looking for a leader who is committed to raising standards and is inspired by the opportunity to grow languages provision in school as we seek to strengthen this area of our curriculum offer. We want someone who will be excited by the chance to work with colleagues who genuinely want to improve the experiences and outcomes for all students. We are looking for an inspirational individual with enthusiasm, resilience, highly developed interpersonal skills and the proven ability to motivate young people.

We would welcome applications from motivated professionals for whom taking on a leadership role is the next step in their career as well as colleagues with leadership experience. They should have a real interest in a wide range of teaching and learning approaches and enjoy working in a team.