



Classics at Emanuel



The Classics Department

Classics is thriving at Emanuel with a large uptake in classical subjects throughout the school. Latin has been re-introduced as a compulsory subject for all in Year 7 and this has proved to be highly successful. All members of the department are experienced, enthusiastic and well-qualified specialists.

The teachers in the Classics department at Emanuel share a zeal for Classics and a keenness to communicate its value to our students. There is a strong sense of belonging to a specialist team which works harmoniously together, sharing ideas, resources and good practice, but allowing flexibility and individuality to flourish. As a principle, the teaching of both Latin and Classical Civilisation in all year groups is shared and rotated between the members of the department.

From the outset students are engaged in exploring the classical world in all its breadth. With a primary focus on language and literature, the teaching also

covers aspects of the Classical World, material culture and art of the Greek and Roman world. Students are encouraged to compare, to analyse and to evaluate.

Students in the higher levels of the school are very committed to their classical studies. The department has an excellent record of retention of students from year to year in this area of the school. A high proportion in recent years has gone on to study classical subjects at excellent universities.

Students are well provided on the extra-curricular front with the offer of Ancient Greek classes for both juniors and seniors, trips for all year groups (including overseas) and support sessions and master classes particularly for exam forms.

The department runs a wide variety of domestic and foreign trips. We visit the Museum of London, Bath, St Albans, Fishbourne and the Cambridge Greek Play. Abroad, a trip runs nearly every year and in 2020 we are running two trips to Pompeii due to popular demand.



Lower School Curriculum

All Year 7 pupils study Latin as one of their two language subjects. The quality and number of students opting for Latin into Year 8 is exceptionally high – this year nearly 100 pupils have chosen to continue. Emanuel students thrive on the breadth and entertainment provided by the Cambridge Latin Course. The department makes use of the resources accompanying the course, including the eCLC, which we licence for use on the school network, and the Cambridge SCP website. Students who opt for Latin in Year 8 continue with it into Year 9.

Middle School Curriculum

Classical Civilisation is introduced into the curriculum in Year 9 alongside Latin. At this stage it is intended mainly for students new to the school who are not studying two languages and for a few existing students who are permitted to drop one of their language options early. The Year 9 course has been developed by the department and at present consists of units on the gods, daily life in Greece, early science, Pompeii, the ancient Olympic Games and Book One of *The Iliad*.



GCSE

There are usually two sets each of Latin and Classical Civilisation in each of Years 10 and 11. Results at GCSE are excellent.

In Latin the present Year 11 are studying for examination in Eduqas specification. The pupils are preparing for three papers: Latin Language, Latin Literature and Sources, and Roman Civilisation.

Classical Civilisation draws its students from the full spectrum of Emanuel students, including some who are taking Latin as well. Typically, there is one set in each of Years 10 and 11 studying the OCR GCSE Route 1 (J199) *Myth and Religion* and *Roman City Life* specification. Classical Greek is also taught off timetable currently, and a number of pupils have taken the subject at GCSE.

A Level

The numbers taking Latin in the sixth form are increasing as the overall academic standard of Emanuel students continues to improve. Students currently study Virgil: *Aeneid XI* and Cicero: *Philippics II*. The teaching of language and literature in both years is shared equally around the department.

Classical Civilisation students are evenly divided between those who have done the subject at GCSE and those taking it for the first time. We teach the OCR Classical Civilisation specification – *World of the Hero*; *Greek Theatre* and *Politics of the Late Republic*.