



**Together: we care, we challenge, we excel.**

# MODERN LANGUAGES

**“A different language is a different vision of life.”**

*Federico Fellini*



The MFL faculty believes that languages are becoming ever more important in an increasingly connected world. The skills, knowledge and understanding developed through the delivery of the MFL curriculum are an integral part of a young person's all-round education forging the competencies needed to enter the work place at the end of their full time education. Furthermore, the increased understanding of other cultures helps students to develop greater awareness of the wider modern society.

We aim to provide students, regardless of ability, with an enjoyable, practical skill in their Modern Foreign Language. Year 7 and 8 students have the choice of 3 languages: French, Spanish and Japanese and experience a curriculum designed to give them a firm basis in the basic skills needed to learn a language and linking strongly with the whole school literacy focus. In year 9 students are encouraged to progress their learning to GCSE standard and then hopefully into KS5.

Through a motivating and encouraging atmosphere, we strive to inspire students to achieve in all the skill areas: reading, writing, listening and speaking. We encourage students to take risks in an environment where they feel safe to learn from their mistakes and develop a mutually supporting relationship with their peers and teachers. We endeavour to do this through careful questioning and peer- and self- assessment, as well as through interactive methods of teaching and learning. Students are encouraged to develop their confidence to assess their own progress and to set themselves targets to improve. Students are taught from the beginning of Year 7 to recognise the criteria for quality work and acquire the necessary skills to assess and improve their own work.

**Head of Modern Languages: Emma Herod/Alison Savage**



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**“If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart.”**  
*Nelson Mandela*



### KEY STAGE 3

Teaching may be of any modern foreign language and should build on the foundations of language learning laid at key stage 2, whether pupils continue with the same language or take up a new one. Teaching should focus on developing the breadth and depth of pupils' competence in listening, speaking, reading and writing, based on a sound foundation of core grammar and vocabulary. It should enable pupils to understand and communicate personal and factual information that goes beyond their immediate needs and interests, developing and justifying points of view in speech and writing, with increased spontaneity, independence and accuracy.

### KEY STAGE 4

**JAPANESE** Students of the Edexcel GCSE in Japanese will learn to speak, listen, read, write and communicate effectively in Japanese, as well as develop awareness and understanding of countries and communities where Japanese is spoken.

The Edexcel GCSE in Japanese enables students to develop an understanding of the language in a variety of contexts, the ability to communicate effectively in Japanese, and knowledge of Japanese vocabulary and structures, as well as transferable language learning skills.

**FRENCH AND SPANISH** The new style GCSE in French and Spanish is based on a conviction that learners studying a modern foreign language will develop their desire and ability to communicate with and understand speakers of the assessed language in a variety of contexts and for a variety of purposes.

We aim to broaden horizons, develop cultural knowledge and understanding and foster transferable skills such as confidence, communication, problem solving and creativity.

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