



Why we teach what we teach

- Learning a foreign language provides students with excellent transferrable skills, in particular those of interacting with a variety of people from different cultures. Our schemes of learning encourage students to understand and reflect upon English grammar as well as that of the language studied, and supports students through the development of their communication skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing.
- Knowing a foreign language is an extremely valuable skill for the workplace. There are many cognitive benefits of learning a language such as improved memory, problem-solving and critical-thinking skills, enhanced concentration, the ability to multitask, and better listening skills.
- The Languages Department is key to enriching your child's social and cultural understanding of the world, exploring countries, societies and celebrations from many different countries around the world. In our lessons, we teach about how other places have different routines, systems, and practices which gives our students a greater understanding and tolerance of social differences.
- Without Languages in the curriculum, students would not learn how to communicate with millions of people from non-English speaking countries. Learning a foreign language also opens the door to many potential careers abroad for those who are interested.

Core concepts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Initially, students focus their knowledge of understanding and producing language including the key 7 strands of learning (Super 7) which are opinions, adjectives, qualifiers, time phrases, connectives, justification. They then expand their work into a wide variety of tenses and move on to complex language into Year 9 and Key Stage 4.
How our curriculum builds over time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Starting with the Super 7 building blocks in Year 7, the learning progresses to include more tenses and cultural knowledge based on a variety of vocabulary and interesting topics of study. Our Key Stage 3 scheme of work implicitly and explicitly supports progression onto GCSE and preparation to continue on to Advanced Language Studies for those who are interested.➤ The Languages Department uses the most up-to-date pedagogy from the MFL world in order to engage our learners in a challenging yet supportive manner that enables them to achieve highly right from the start of Year 7. Our curriculum is based on cyclical learning, where ideas and concepts are revisited and expanded upon over the course of KS3 and KS4.
Key ingredients of a lesson	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Lessons include a wide variety of activities to support learner progress from vocabulary and grammar practice to translation, memory activities, comprehension and communication. The focus is on engaging exposure of the learning with enjoyable consolidation activities to ensure full understanding and progress in line with individual student potential.
How we assess the knowledge, understanding and skills of students	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ In Modern Foreign Languages, we include summative assessment in all Key Stages once per half term. All 4 skills are assessed during each term, alternating between the productive skills of Speaking and Writing, and the receptive skills of Listening and Reading. This optimises the time allocated to learning against the lessons used to prepare for, complete assessments, receive feedback, and improve work.➤ Speaking and Writing is assessed using a Target card, which students have access to in their exercise book. Feedback is given using a code system of 'Stars and Wishes' for students to be able to reflect on what they have done well, and what they need to improve on. Assessment results are recorded and students are given the opportunity to evaluate and improve their work using the feedback sheets. Students are also given weekly vocabulary home learning tasks, which are then tested to ensure vocabulary is retained over time. Students also complete engaging termly homework projects on which feedback is given.

<p>How we provide cultural capital and extra-curricular opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ We aim to provide students with opportunities not only to learn another language, but to further develop intercultural understanding and cross-curricular skills. As the world becomes smaller, it is becoming increasingly important that our young people recognise, understand and accept different customs, traditions and social norms. Through our curriculum, we aim to broaden our learners' knowledge and awareness of life in different countries around the globe whilst also enabling our students to communicate with a larger percentage of the world's population. Studying a foreign language offers students the chance to consider the possibilities open to them outside of their country; it opens their eyes to the wider world and a host of potential experiences and opportunities.
<p>How we provide stretch and challenge enrichment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In lessons, challenges are set to stretch our higher ability students, encouraging them to become more independent through allowing them to explore ways of using the language they have learnt in lessons in non-scripted, un-prompted tasks. ➤ Teachers ensure that challenge is at the heart of every lesson. For all students there are opportunities to go beyond what is taught in the classroom by means of a variety of online sites, cultural experiences and trips abroad.
<p>How we adapt our curriculum to meet the needs of all students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ We ensure that the learning is accessible and challenging to all. We plan the lessons ensuring differentiation is included that allows all learners of all abilities are able to rise to and meet the lesson's objectives. Help is offered in a subtle way when needed so that students feel supported at all times. We work closely with the Learning Support Department to support the individual needs of all learners.
<p>How we link our subject knowledge to the world of work and further study</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The wide variety of transferrable skills you develop as a linguist are one of the main reasons for studying languages, be that analysis of grammatical patterns and pronunciation of new vocabulary, enhanced reading and listening comprehension, written and verbal communication within a wide range of contexts. This breadth of skills, along with an open-minded attitude to others supports our students in exploring a wide variety of career pathways and develops skills that are useful in any future employment or continued study in languages, preparing students for a myriad of future work opportunities. ➤ As a linguist, you will have no difficulty in finding a job in a very wide range of occupations - in business management, banking and finance, travel and tourism, logistics, sales and marketing, interpreting, translating and educating, and in journalism and broadcasting. People who speak more than one language demonstrate impressive communication skills and may have travelled abroad and been exposed to different cultures, something that businesses seek when recruiting.
<p>How we provide personal development for students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Learning foreign languages opens up a new world of knowledge and understanding, allowing you to explore how people live in other countries and on other continents, seeing how they behave and what they value. ➤ The MFL curriculum intent is to provide students with opportunities not only to learn another language, but also to further develop intercultural understanding and cross-curricular skills. As the world becomes smaller, it is becoming increasingly important that our young people recognise, understand and accept different customs, traditions and social norms. Through our curriculum, we aim to broaden our learners' knowledge and awareness of life in different countries around the globe whilst also enabling our students to communicate with a larger percentage of the world's population.