



## Curriculum Overview – *Modern Foreign Languages* (MFL)

### **Why is the study of *Modern Foreign Languages* important?**

A language is an essential skill in the world in which we live. Studying a different language helps you to be common a global citizen and also to understand your own language and encourages you to reflect on it. It supports the development of your literacy skills in your own language. When learning a new language, you also access different cultures. The study of French or Spanish should also broaden your horizons and encourage you to step beyond familiar cultural boundaries and develop new ways of seeing the world.

### **What skills will you gain from *Modern Foreign Languages* ?**

In French and Spanish GCSE you will learn to use four main aspects of essential skills in communication in French (and, indeed, in any language): Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing.

You learn to express yourself and you build up your self-confidence.

You will learn to work in pairs and gain confidence in speaking to others. You will work on Role-plays and engage in conversations with a variety of partners.

Learning languages gives you the following skills: social skills, ability to work in a team, communication skills , problem-solving skills, confidence and open mindedness.

*"Our curriculum will be structured so that no pupil is prevented from pursuing a course or programme based on their gender, ability, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation. Pupils with disabilities or special educational needs will, as far as is possible, be provided with reasonable adjustments to enable them to access an ambitious and relevant curriculum."*



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## **What knowledge will you gain from the study of *Modern Foreign Languages* ?**

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You will develop a better understanding of the culture and identity of the countries and communities where French and Spanish are spoken. During the course you will cover the following topic areas:

**Theme 1:** Identity and culture

**Theme 2:** Local, national, international and global areas of interest

**Theme 3:** Current and future study and employment.

You will learn grammatical structures and concepts which will also be useful with your studying of English. There will be a focus from translating from French to English and to English to French.

You will discover French and Spanish culture through the studies of songs and films.

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## **How does *Modern Foreign Languages* help you in other subject areas?**

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This course will help you to make appropriate links to other areas of the curriculum: history, geography, English, language, citizenship, Religious Studies.

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## What can you do to deepen your knowledge and skills of *Modern Foreign Languages* ?

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These are our tips to ensure that you will succeed.

- Do homework with care
- Revise the vocabulary in the exercise book regularly: make yourself a bank of words on cards with French/Spanish on one side English on the other side)
- Learn some sentences by heart (past/future sentences) and practice writing them regularly
- Record a marked paragraph on your phone and listen to it
- Practice your work with a friend or a family member
- Attend after school revision sessions
- Make use of your revision guide and do the activities in the workbook
- Download Duolingo and do some daily tasks.
- Use this website to learn vocabulary <https://quizlet.com>

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## How are you assessed in *Modern Foreign Languages* ?

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All four areas of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing will be assessed:

The four skills are tested at the end of the course by examination. All papers are available at either foundation or higher tier. However, candidates will not be able to mix tiers on different papers.

The Reading and Listening Units of the GCSE are assessed in separate exams. Students are expected to understand and respond to different types of written and spoken language

The Speaking unit consists of a final examination including some structured role-plays and a conversation.

The writing unit consists of tasks where students must write short texts and an extended text on the topics studied in class. They must make accurate use of a variety of vocabulary and grammatical structures.

Students will also need to translate sentences and short texts from English into French to convey key messages accurately and to apply grammatical knowledge of language and structures in context

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## **How can *Modern Foreign languages* help you in your future?**

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Taking a Modern Foreign Language to GCSE is part of the EBacc qualification. Language GCSEs are regarded as a highly valuable qualification by colleges and universities. You can study a Modern Foreign Language either as a single honours or a joint honours subject and you might choose to study it alongside other subjects e.g. Linguistics, business, Law, history etc.

It will also enable you to work or to travel abroad. Language skills are important for many companies, organisations and charities.

Learning a Modern Foreign Language will open many doors for you and you will be in a position to consider the following careers:

- Airline services
- Advertising
- The media
- Event management
- Business
- Teaching
- Hotel management
- Nursing
- Translating / interpreting
- Tourism
- Translator
- Interpreter
- lawyer
- Web design

Speaking another language makes you stand out from the crowd.

## INSERT SUBJECT – Curriculum Maps



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