

## **Modern Foreign Languages**

### **Languages offered: French, German, Spanish**

#### **What Entry Requirement will I need?**

GCSE Grade 6 or above.

#### **What does the course involve?**

During this course you will read and listen to authentic foreign language materials and will study aspects of the contemporary society, cultural background and heritage of a country where the target language is spoken. You will extend and develop your knowledge of the grammar and vocabulary and will use this to speak, write, read and listen to the language.

#### Topics in the first year include:

##### **Aspects of society in the countries where target language is spoken**

- The changing state of the family
- The digital world
- Youth culture: fashion and trends, music, television

##### **Artistic culture in the countries where target language is spoken**

- Festivals and traditions
- Art and architecture
- Cultural life in a city

Other topics throughout the whole course include immigration, racism, politics, the EU and country specific history.

#### **How will I be assessed?**

You will be expected to take on the whole two-year A-Level course. Your progress will be assessed towards the end of the first year to determine if you can go on to study the full A-Level qualification. At the end of the two-year course, there will be three exams which cover all four Themes.

There will be an Assessment Objective around knowledge and understanding of the target language culture – students will need to demonstrate this in the speaking and writing components.

There will also be an A-Level Independent Research Project assessed within the speaking exam.

There will be Listening, Reading and Writing exams, which also include translations from and into the target language.

Set literature and a film will both be assessed through a target language essay.

#### **Progression**

This course leads to the A-Level qualification in Languages and, depending on results, entrance to university.

Job opportunities for competent linguists are numerous and diverse. From website designing to interpreting and from teaching to MI6 operations, global businesses - and those with global aspirations - think very highly of foreign language speakers, and are prepared to pay for them accordingly. On average, MFL graduates earn more than anyone else whilst often travelling

the world. Also, most universities are keen to recruit linguists and Languages is one of the subjects most required by the Russell Group universities for entry. As there is a shortage of students with Language skills, students will find entrance to universities easier.

**Is there anything else I need to know?**

You need to have a strong work ethic and be prepared to learn vocabulary regularly, take part in regular speaking discussions in your language and be interested in finding out more about the countries in which your chose language is spoken. You should have a general willingness to travel abroad to perfect your skills. You will also have to commit to regularly practising your speaking in class sessions each week and, ideally, outside of lessons. Homework plays a major role in the success of A-Level Languages.

**Where can I find out more?**

From your Y11 language teacher, Heads of Subjects (Mrs Kelly, Mr Church, Mr Jones, Ms Cruikshanks), the AQA website and the Languages area at the Post-16 evening.