



Curriculum Information

Modern Foreign Languages

General

The Curriculum Area is made up of three subject areas: French, Mandarin Chinese and Spanish. The Curriculum Leader will be assisted by an Assistant Curriculum Leader. There is also a Head of Subject for Mandarin Chinese.

This is an exciting time to join Belvedere Academy as a Curriculum Leader. Following an internal consultation process carried out this year, from September 2021 we will have six Curriculum Leaders all of whom are paid on the leadership scale. These Curriculum Leaders will form a team of six senior middle leaders who will work directly with the Senior Leadership Team to drive the academy forwards to beyond outstanding. There will be ample opportunity for these key staff to lead on whole school initiatives as well as ensuring that subjects within their curriculum area are making outstanding progress, supporting all pupils and contributing significantly to the wider life of the academy. Curriculum Leaders will be expected to be passionate about learning within their own subjects, ambitious both for the academy and within their own careers and fully committed to the vision and values of the academy.

There are currently 9 teachers of MFL in the Faculty. All French and Spanish teachers teach up to GCSE standard in both languages. Seven staff are full time and 2 are currently part time. There is a strong emphasis on teamwork; a particular strength is the input and mutual support of all members of the curriculum area. We meet on a weekly basis in order to disseminate information, monitor progress and share good practice. All teachers teach across the age and ability range.

The department aims to promote language learning and celebrates students who speak different home languages. Learning a language is so much more than just developing grammatical and lexical knowledge. We encourage a cultural curiosity of countries where French, Spanish and Mandarin Chinese are spoken, whilst developing the pupils' communication and critical thinking skills. This is achieved through using target language in lessons, the study of authentic resources and a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities. We also have different whole school cultural

days and events that we celebrate throughout the year. We are passionate about our subject. The current focus of the curriculum area is on improving progress rates in KS4 and KS5, and increasing the uptake for dual linguists and Sixth Form. Schemes of work and assessments have been adapted to ensure the KS3 curriculum is ambitious, motivating and has a level of challenge to allow MFL learners to excel.

The Curriculum

Since September 2019 onwards, all students have studied French, Spanish and Chinese in Years 7 and 8. At the end of Year 8, students reduce to two MFL subjects following an options process. They commence the GCSE course in Year 10 and all languages follow the AQA specification. In the 6th Form we have AS and A2 groups in French and Spanish. We follow the EDUQAS specification.

Facilities

There are six classrooms in total, including two in the Form Room Block. There are two offices in which all members of the department will be encouraged to use for planning and marking. The Curriculum Leader will need to ensure that the department remains cohesive across two separate buildings.

Swire

The Swire Group is a Multinational Company involved in a multitude of sectors across the globe. To commemorate their 200th anniversary and their long-standing business relations with mainland China and Hong Kong, they established the Swire Chinese Language Foundation and invested £25 million to fund a ten-year initiative aimed at widening the learning of Mandarin Chinese in Britain. It is their vision for Chinese to be a mainstream and self-sustaining subject within Britain's schools in the long-term. The Belvedere Academy is one of the twelve original pilot schools. We commenced the teaching of Chinese in September 2016 and since then, the subject has grown within the academy and is becoming an increasingly popular GCSE option. It is our passion to extend our reach within the local community and we have established partnerships with local schools in Liverpool, Ormskirk and Wirral. In the coming academic years, it is our mission to further build and extend our reach into more primary and secondary schools and for these schools to contribute financially to support the drive to make the subject self-sustaining. For further information about The Swire Chinese Language Foundation and other Swire Centres, please visit <https://www.swireclf.org/>

Trips

We organise trips to both France and Spain on a yearly basis, where we have developed links with partner schools. Our most recent trips have been to Paris, Valencia and Granada. In 2019, we took a group of students to Beijing. We also organise events such as the Why Languages and High Achievers event to promote MFL at different stages of Lower School and Upper School. The department offers a range of Enrichment sessions including MFL for Fun in Lower School, GCSE support groups, and Current Affairs and Translation in Sixth Form.

Data

Improving progress and uptake in MFL is the priority for the Curriculum Leader. Below are the last three years' results.

GCSE French

	2018
% 4-9	89
% 5-9	74
% 7-9	18

GCSE French (Top set - legacy fast track)

	2018
% A*-E	100
% A*-C	85
% A*-A	8

A Level French

	2018 (legacy A Level) Cohort : 3	2019 (new A Level) Cohort : 8
% A* - E	100	100
% A* - C	100	70
% A* - B	100	60

GCSE Spanish

	2018	2019
% 4-9	100	93
% 5-9	100	72
% 7-9	64	34

A Level Spanish

	2018 (legacy A Level) Cohort : 8	2019 (new A Level) Cohort : 7
% A* - E	100	100
% A* - C	100	60
% A* - B	100	50

GCSE Mandarin

	2019
% 4-9	100
% 5-9	100
% 7-9	100

Here is a more detailed breakdown of P8 in 2019 to give you a better understanding of the academy's priorities in relation to EBacc.

Profile of girls' P8 outcomes against national measures

Progress 8 2019:

All Pupils:

	Overall	English	Maths	EBacc	Open
School	+0.23	+0.40	-0.36	+0.09	+0.63
National ALL	-0.02	-0.04	-0.02	-0.03	-0.03
Difference	+0.25	+0.44	-0.34	+0.12	+0.66
National Girls	+0.22	+0.39	-0.02	+0.14	+0.35
Difference	+0.01	+0.01	-0.34	-0.05	+0.28

Disadvantaged pupils:

	Overall	English	Maths	EBacc	Open
School	+0.05	+0.30	-0.53	-0.18	+0.48
National Dis	-0.44	-0.44	-0.39	-0.49	-0.47
Difference	+0.49	+0.74	-0.14	+0.31	+0.95
National Dis. Girls	-0.18	0.00	-0.37	-0.31	-0.08
Difference	+0.23	+0.30	-0.16	+0.13	+0.56
National all	-0.02	-0.04	-0.02	-0.03	-0.03
Difference	+0.07	+0.34	-0.51	-0.15	+0.51
National Girls	+0.22	+0.39	-0.02	+0.14	+0.35
Difference	-0.17	-0.09	-0.51	-0.32	+0.13
National other	+0.13	+0.11	+0.11	+0.14	+0.12
Difference	-0.08	+0.19	-0.64	-0.32	+0.36
National other girls	+0.38	+0.53	+0.11	+0.31	+0.52
Difference	-0.33	-0.23	-0.64	-0.13	-0.04

Prior Attainment:

	Low (2)	Middle (28)	High (97)
School	-0.44	+0.51	+0.16
National ALL	-0.22	-0.01	+0.02
Difference	-0.22	+0.52	+0.14
National Girls	0.0	+0.25	+0.27
Difference	-0.44	+0.26	-0.11