



## **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 6<sup>th</sup> 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. Curriculum Leader responsibilities linked to Swire are to:

- Work with the Chinese Subject Lead and Administration-Coordinator to support the expansion and organic growth of Chinese at the Belvedere Academy and partnership schools
- Oversee and support the further consolidation and promotion of Chinese at the Belvedere Academy and our partnership schools
- Plan the long-term sustainability and financial security of the subject at the Belvedere Academy and our partnership schools

- Regularly liaise with other senior leaders and heads of school at our partnership schools
- Organise and attend meetings with heads of partnership schools to oversee and promote the subject, as well as form new partnerships
- Discuss and oversee financial commitments and SLA agreements with partnership schools
- Present and support during Swire's annual review visit to the Belvedere Academy
- Host and support teachers and senior leaders from other Swire Centres when they visit the Belvedere Academy
- Work with the Chinese Subject Lead to complete Swire's annual report, budget projections, as well as create proposals requesting additional funding for teachers, trips, technology etc. if necessary
- Attend Swire's annual Chinese teaching conference and other meetings organised by Swire
- Attend regular virtual, telephone and face-to-face meetings with Swire, to discuss overall progress and the long-term sustainability of the subject
- Support in the recruitment and monitoring of high quality Chinese teachers

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
<b>School</b>	<b>+0.23</b>	<b>+0.40</b>	<b>-0.36</b>	<b>+0.09</b>	<b>+0.63</b>
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
<b>School</b>	<b>+0.05</b>	<b>+0.30</b>	<b>-0.53</b>	<b>-0.18</b>	<b>+0.48</b>
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 )
<b>School</b>	<b>-0.44</b>	<b>+0.51</b>	<b>+0.16</b>
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