

Modern Languages Department

Departmental Information

Staffing

The Department currently comprises three full-time teachers.

Mr Clark Eastwood	Director of Teaching and Learning (i/c German)
Miss Laurilene Lafine	Teacher of French (i/c French)
Mrs Gillian Oates	Teacher of French and German

Timetabled Allocation from September 2021:

In Years 7, 8 and 9 – all pupils will have 200 minutes of French and 200 minutes of German teaching over the two-week timetable, split into lessons of 100 minutes each.

Year 10 and 11 GCSE classes will have 300 minutes of their chosen language(s) over the fortnight. Pupils who study two languages have 300 minutes of each language.

Facilities

There is a dedicated area of school with MFL classrooms. Each teacher has his/her own laptop and all teaching rooms are equipped with an interactive whiteboard. In addition, teachers can book one of the ICT rooms for cross-curricular use as required. We have a MFL Resource office and have access to a variety of resources and online materials to aid teaching and learning. As a school, we use the Firefly portal to assign tasks, upload lessons and deliver homework.

Educational Visits

We currently offer our pupils three opportunities to take part in residential visits abroad – these visits have all been embedded across the school for many years and always prove to be immensely popular – in Year 8, we go to Paris. Year 10 is a visit to the Schwarzwald area of Germany, but close enough to the French border to be of benefit to learners of either language. In Year 11, we run a cross-curricular visit with the History Department to Berlin. It is desirable that department members are willing to participate in these, or any future visits, where able.

The Department

Here at Endon, Languages are seen as a very valuable part of our curriculum. As a result, the overwhelming majority of our pupils study a language to GCSE level. We are a team who are dedicated to finding every means possible to bring languages to life. We are excited to be refreshing our curriculum plans ready for September, as we move back to a three-year KS3 with increased teaching and learning time. We plan collaboratively and share resources across the department. New ideas are highly welcome and we love to be innovative in our approach. We have undertaken a lot of research into the modern-thinking around language acquisition and are starting to embed some different models of delivery and retrieval. The most important piece of information is that you would feel valued in the Department – we trust our team to be innovative, to think outside the box, to try new ideas and most importantly, we all believe in teaching with a smile on our faces. Pupil and staff relationships in the department are largely excellent and you would be joining a school where you can make a big difference in pupils' lives and engender a feeling of being able to succeed in language learning. You would find our department a warm and welcoming place to work with support available at all times. As a department, we have a strong record of producing some very able linguists who go on to some of the highest institutions in the country to further their studies.