



## FURTHER DETAILS OF LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

### DEPARTMENT STRUCTURE

At St Thomas More Catholic Academy, students currently study French at KS3 and KS4, with the vision to widen the curriculum offer to include additional languages, preferably German. The role of the Head of Languages is to ensure that the ambitious curriculum intent is implemented creatively and consistently across the Department. The Head of Languages will ensure that the curriculum is appropriately sequenced, securing outstanding outcomes for students and increasing numbers studying MFL at GCSE and A Level.

We are looking for someone who is passionate about their subject and is driven to instil a love of Languages in our students by offering a range of academic and enrichment opportunities. We firmly believe that learning a language should be liberating for students and therefore enrichment activities should foster pupils' curiosity and develop their cultural capital. The Head of Languages will have the opportunity to develop the existing enrichment offer, which includes a Culture Club, a French residential, cinema experiences, opportunities to experience French cuisine and participation in workshops delivered by external speakers, including Michelin.

Visits are welcome and should be made through the HR/Office Manager, Mrs Stacy Walker.

### CURRICULUM

The curriculum at Key Stage 3 is sequenced to build on the foundations of language learning established at Key Stage 2, whether students continue with the same language, or learn a new one. The intent of the ambitious language curriculum is to develop the breadth and depth of students' knowledge and competence in listening, speaking, reading and writing. The explicit teaching of core grammar and vocabulary is interleaved within the curriculum to develop students' independence as they progress into Key Stage 4. Students currently follow the AQA GCSE course which adopts a thematic approach towards language acquisition; enabling students to make connections between their own experiences and those of other people in communities in which French is spoken. As part of the Languages curriculum, students are also taught communication strategies to develop their ability to understand unknown words. This reinforces the notion that learning a language is a skill for life and something which students should enjoy and find rewarding.

### Department aims:

- To deliver a well-sequenced, ambitious languages curriculum, fostering a love of learning
- To increase the number of students studying subjects included in the Ebacc to maximise their opportunities in further education
- To ensure outstanding outcomes for students and increase the number studying MFL at GCSE
- To raise students' aspirations, through providing an opening to other cultures
- To foster students' curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world



- To provide the foundation for students to study further languages

### Staffing

- |                 |                                 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| • Sarah Beasley | Associate Assistant Headteacher |
| • Vacant        | Head of Languages               |
| • Tracey Booth  | Teacher in charge of French     |
| • Oum Kalafati  | Teacher of French               |

This is an exciting time to join our Department, especially considering the reformed Language GCSEs, which will contribute towards making MFL subjects more accessible and therefore increase the number of students choosing to study them.



All Saints Catholic Collegiate

A company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 8709352  
Registered Office c/o St Gregory's Catholic Academy, Spring Garden Road, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire ST3 2QN

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FAITH, LOVE & LEARNING