

St Wilfrid's Catholic School

Modern Languages Department



The Department of Modern Languages currently comprises four teachers covering the teaching of Spanish and French across Key Stages 3, 4 and 5. All students in Year 7 study Spanish and French, opting in Year 8 to continue their study of one of those languages. Students are set by ability from Year 7 and this is done in collaboration with the English department. Many students will carry their chosen language through to GCSE. For approximately a third of GCSE students this then continues into 'A' Level in Years 12 and 13.

The Department has three fully equipped classrooms, all with interactive touchscreens with additional relevant software and access to digital course materials. All classrooms have dictionaries, set textbooks and stationery for student use (including mini-whiteboards). Each teacher also has their own laptop. The students are issued with exercise books and a vocabulary booklet for each language. It is departmental policy that all these materials are brought to every lesson. We use Dynamo and Viva textbooks and accompanying online resources for Key Stage 3 and the AQA Kerboodle package for Key Stages 4 and 5.

We currently have Key Stage 4 residential trips to Paris and Salamanca which run on alternate years and there are a number of other shorter trips we organise, such as visits to the cinema, the theatre, café and tapas, study conferences and university taster days. At Key Stage 3 there is a day trip to France for Year 7, and various languages activities and visits for Years 8 and 9. We look forward to being able to resume these enrichment activities in the not-too-distant future.

In order to monitor the progress of our students we have a database that tracks the progress of each student and we use this to identify key groups for targeted intervention. This is particularly true at Key Stage 4 and 5. Schemes of work are new and comprehensive and play a key part in the development of cross-curricular skills of ICT, literacy, numeracy and links to business and enterprise. Agreed assessment tasks aim to move students through the age-related expectations, or from one grade to the next.

The ideal candidate would be looking to develop and promote Spanish and French within the school and to enthuse students to study and enjoy languages. They should be able to demonstrate creativity within their teaching and have ideas to support students in meeting the demands of GCSE and A Level.

If you would like more information about the department or wish to discuss any aspect of the languages provision please do not hesitate to contact me at L.DeGuillen@stwilfrids.com.

Lisa de Guillén
Subject Leader for Modern Languages
January 2021

St Wilfrid's Catholic School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



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