

# Welcome to the Department of Languages

Subject Leaders: Mrs Walquiria Dunne (KS3) and Mrs Rebecca Thomas (KS4)



We are both Spanish specialists and teach both French and Spanish. We took on the role of Head of Department at Hadley Learning Community in September 2020, having worked in the department for sixteen years between us. During this period, we have seen the department grow, alongside the rest of the school. The progress and achievement of our students is above national outcomes resulting in positive progress 8 scores under the new GCSE. We are a forward-thinking department who strive to get the best out of our pupils. We are particularly proud of our EBACC results which are consistently above average.

## Our Students' Achievements:

Qualification	2018/2019	2019/20
MFL Grades 4+	76.4%	90.5%
MFL Grades 5+	55.1%	73.0%
VA MFL	0.35	0.72

## Our Vision:

- ⊕ Students who study Languages at HLC develop the skills and confidence to consider themselves as World Citizens who belong in a multicultural, mutually respectful world.
- ⊕ Students learn to be better communicators so that they can be more open and adaptable to new experiences.
- ⊕ Students develop strong, lifelong linguistic skills and become curious and interested in the world.
- ⊕ Students have a love of languages brought on by nurturing their linguistic curiosity and an intrinsic motivation to explore and respect other cultures and people.
- ⊕ Fundamentally, our team endeavour to inspire and support our students through modelling, collaboration and independent work to develop their reading, writing, listening and speaking skills.

## Our Curriculum:

MFL is taught as a discrete subject in Key Stage 3 allowing us to provide our students with a broad foundation of target language and skills prior to them opting for either French or Spanish at GCSE level. With this in mind, our Key Stage 3 curriculum aims to introduce students to a wide range of cultural topics in the target language including: describing yourself and others, free time, school, family and friends, cities and food. At GCSE we follow the AQA syllabus. Students further develop their linguistic ability through

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more in-depth study of holidays, school, technology, sport, international events and festivals, future study and work and the environment. Hereby building on and applying a range of grammatical structures through reading, writing, listening and speaking. We have a number of enrichment opportunities including trips to both France and Spain and links to schools in those countries.

## Our Team:

Currently the MFL team comprises of five teaching staff, both French and Spanish specialists. We are a dynamic group of people with a wealth of experience and have all lived and worked abroad. With a passion for languages and culture, we endeavour to make language learning fun and meaningful, incorporating new ideas and styles of teaching such as Dr. Gianfranco Conti's latest teaching strategies.

The MFL Department is a dynamic, passionate, and enthusiastic department; a collaborative and creative approach to teaching and learning is embedded within daily practice and future planning. We have a low staff turnover, of which we are extremely proud and this exemplifies the positive and caring team we are.

It is the Senior Leadership's principle that all staff, where possible, have their own dedicated teaching space. We are a well-resourced Department, who are well-respected by the Senior Leadership team. As a result they invest heavily in our training, nurture our aspirations and look after our well-being.

## Interested in Joining our Team?

If you would like any further information about us, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Equally, if you would like to see us in action, we would welcome a visit from you.



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