



Languages Faculty

Information for Languages Applicants, October 2024

The Languages Faculty consists of 11 passionate linguists, specialising in French, Spanish, Japanese and Mandarin. The post would suit an inspiring, enthusiastic teacher of Mandarin. The ability to teach Japanese to A-Level would be an advantage. The East Asian Language departments work closely together and the Faculty functions cohesively as a team.

The curriculum at Key Stage 3 allows all students to learn French throughout Years 7-9, as well as a second language (Spanish, Japanese or Mandarin) chosen following taster sessions at the beginning of Year 7. We have developed schemes of work in-house, which balance language acquisition principles with disciplinary knowledge, so that students can become successful communicators. Students have the opportunity to continue with one or both languages to GCSE, A-Level and beyond.

Enjoyment and success in Languages are highly valued at Katharine Lady Berkeley's School and our curriculum is designed to develop successful language learners, of all abilities. In Year 7 students are taught in mixed ability groups, and banded classes in Years 8 and 9. We currently have over 50% uptake at GCSE and strive for more. There are typically six GCSE French and Spanish groups running, as well as one group for each of Japanese and Mandarin. All four languages are offered in the sixth form to A-level.

At Key Stage 4 we currently offer AQA French, Spanish and Mandarin and Edexcel Japanese and we were truly proud of our students' results of the last two years with over 93% of our languages cohort achieving at least a grade 4 in a language.

Extra-curricular activities undoubtedly play a significant role in languages and our students have the opportunity to take part in a range of well-established overseas visits to support their language learning, including exchanges and home-stay visits. We aim to enhance classroom learning by providing real-life experiences, in school, running house challenges and seeking out cultural events more locally.

The department has 9 teaching rooms, including an ICT suite and a Sanako-equipped audio laboratory, all of which have a projector and audio facilities. We are eagerly anticipating the rebuild that will update and further improve our facilities.

If you would like further information or have any questions then please feel free to contact me using the email below.

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