Faculty and subject information - The Carlton Academy

Faculty	MFL Department
Head of Faculty / Department	Mrs Hermida Vidal
Email contact address:	p.hermida_vidal@theacademycarlton.org

Overview of the Faculty / Department

Outcomes

Outcomes for all pupils have continued to rise both across the academy and within our subject area. The team is focused on ensuring that we continue this very positive trend and continue to recruit more pupils into Key Stage 5 courses in our subject area. Further information on our achievements and progress can be provided to candidates who are invited for interview or by making contact with the Head of Faculty.

Facilities

We benefit from very well maintained and purpose built accommodation with high levels of access to ICT facilities. Within the department, we have a laptop trolley that the MFL team books and uses with our students to promote independent learning. All classrooms are suited together to help provide an ethos of collaboration and support for all colleagues. The academy has continued to invest in our facilities and receives good levels of funding from the Redhill Trust to ensure we remain well-resourced and work in facilities that the staff and students can thrive within.

Curriculum

At KS3 we offer Spanish and French to all year 7 and 8 groups with the opportunity of doing a second language early in year 7 dependant on a Languages skill test the students sit in September. In Year 7 students 2 hours of Spanish/French a week and some students will be allocated an additional hour of French/Spanish a week. This rotates for year 8 where they do 2 hours of either French of Spanish, depending on what was done in Year 7. This way, when they pick what language they want to continue doing for year 9 they have the same level of both languages. We use AQA as our exam board at GCSE. We teach the course over 2 years, preparing students for the expectations and requirements of the new GCSE which is 100% exam, 25% for each skill, speaking, listening, reading and writing. Themes covered at GCSE include; Identity and culture, Local, national and international areas of interest, and current and future studies and employment. These topics prepare our students for the students for the A Level course quite well. We also use AQA as our exam board for our A Level course where students look at Aspects of Hispanic society and Artistic culture in the Hispanic world at AS and Multiculturalism in Hispanic society and Aspects of Political life in the Hispanic world at A2. Alongside these themes studied at A Level, students also study a film and a book which they will write 2 essays about as part of their exams at the end of A2. The themes at A Level really give our students an insight into Hispanic culture in today's society.

Network and CPD offer

We benefit from, and contribute to, the wide CPD offer in the academy and also the Trust subject networks. Working in partnership with other subject leaders and teachers provides us with the opportunity to share expertise and ensure we are continually able to reflect and further improve all that we do in order to raise the achievement of students.

Enrichment

Within the department there are many enriching opportunities available for students, which allows them to gain a wider understanding of the cultural aspect of languages. Throughout the year we deliver lessons that address European Day of Languages and International languages day as part of our ECO Days (Enriching Curriculum Opportunities).

We also recruit Language Ambassadors every year, who support the department organising assemblies and whole school activities linked to the department such as Hispanic Day and Bastille Day.

Alongside this there are residential trips that take place which, in the past, have included Paris, Madrid and Valencia. We believe that this gives students an opportunity to really learn and experience the culture of the country that speaks the language they are studying and therefore students will engage in language learning on a new level that will positively impact their learning.