



The MFL Faculty

Ethos

Our ethos within the MFL faculty is one which focusses primarily on collaboration. We are a close-knit team, and work together to produce outstanding resources and outcomes. Learning and Teaching is always at the forefront of our agenda, and we are forward-thinking, always looking for the best ways to both engage our learners and secure best outcomes. We are incredibly supportive of each other, and always willing to go the extra mile to help each other out. Joint-planning is a key aspect of our team, and you will find that we do everything we can to minimise workload and ensure staff well-being.

Resources

The Faculty is very well resourced. We have four purpose-built classrooms including an ICT suite with 30 computers. All rooms have interactive whiteboards/clever touch TV boards.

We have an Activelearn online subscription and these resources support our scheme of learning throughout years 7-11. In addition, we have access to linguascope which students use regularly in their own time and for home learning.

Results

Our results in the last few years for French have been in line or above national figures, and significantly above national for Higher Speaking. We always strive to attain the best possible results and to this end, have recently introduced new learning and teaching approaches based on the latest metacognitive approaches, into our lessons.

Student Grouping

Students are initially grouped on arrival in Year 7 based on Key Stage 2 results and our own internal testing. They are then divided into two groups of equal ability, with each of these groups having 5 ability sets.

We have a three-year KS3 as of this academic year (2020/2021). At KS4 students are regrouped into two cohorts based on ability called the Torch (Higher) and Flame (Intermediate/Foundation) routes.

Lesson Length and Frequency

All French lessons are of one-hour duration. At KS3 there are currently three lessons over two weeks (this is planned to increase to four from September) and at KS4 there are five lessons per fortnight.

Programmes of Study

At KS3 and KS4 our schemes of learning are based on Pearson Active learn studio. We also incorporate aspects of Conti and Smith's approaches from "Breaking the Sound Barrier" into our schemes of work and lessons.

Professional development opportunities

Every Wednesday there is training planned by the Assistant Headteacher in charge of L & T. This may be for all staff or for different groups or teams. This time is also given to faculties to use for their specific training.

Most Thursdays we have a faculty meeting after school which lasts up to an hour. All team members are encouraged to contribute and share good practice.

Educational Visits

The MFL faculty is committed to providing opportunities for students to experience language learning outside of the classroom. As such, we lead a number of local visits every year, for example a visit to the Manchester Christmas Markets for year 10 students, University visits for year 9 and year 10 students, Local restaurant and cultural visits and a Home cinema trip. We also run a hugely popular Educational Visit to Paris once a year, where we stay in a Chateau and visit The Eiffel Tower, take a boat trip down the River Seine and go to Euro Disney. As a member of our faculty you would have the opportunity to participate in these fantastic opportunities.

Staffing

The Faculty is led by an experienced Head of Faculty and three other staff members, one of whom is the Second in Faculty. In addition, we host trainees from MMU every year. We have a wide range of experience and skills and are looking forward to adding to our team.