

MFL DEPARTMENT

The department consists of a Head of Department (Mrs H Whittle), an Assistant Head of Department in charge of French (Ms N George), and a full time MFL teacher (Mrs J Anderson) as well as an Assistant Headteacher (Ms C Hobbs). We are passionate, hardworking, enthusiastic and a forward thinking team with a real passion for exposing pupils to the benefits of learning a language through extensive subject knowledge and sharing our experiences with pupils to develop their own passion for learning a language.

The MFL department has five teaching classrooms suited together which are generously resourced with excellent numbers of textbooks and online resources, such as vocab express, quizlet and quizizz. All classrooms have interactive whiteboards with speakers, data projectors and visualisers, which can be linked to the teacher's laptop. There are computer facilities available in each classroom, either in the form of laptops or a combination of fixed PCs and laptops.

There are comprehensive schemes of work in place for KS3 and KS4, which are constantly being developed to ensure that they are up to date and provide an excellent and enriching experience of learning a language. Pupils will learn either French or Spanish, which alternates each year. At the moment, year 7 study French, year 8 study Spanish and year 9 study French. Pupils are taught in mixed ability form tutor groups. These pupils have the option of taking the language that they have studied at KS3 as a GCSE in KS4. However, one big department focus moving forward will be to increase the number of pupils who opt to study a GCSE language in the future.

We follow the Edexcel exam board and the MFL examination results are consistently outstanding. In 2018 we achieved 87% at a grade 4+ and in 2019 this increased to 90%. We hope to maintain these excellent results.

Key stage 3 classes receive two one hour lessons a week and KS4 classes receive three hours of MFL teaching a week.

In order to support our varied teaching groups, we have both French and Spanish foreign language assistants working within the department. Their work is focussed on GCSE groups, working with pupils on an individual basis and supporting in class. They also have contact with KS3 pupils through the provision of extra-curricular activities.

Urdu is also taught to a small group of pupils in extra-curricular sessions by a specialist teacher, leading to a GCSE in KS4.

If you would like any further information, please contact the Academy.

Helen Whittle
Head of MFL Department
April 2021