

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

This vacancy is for a full time or part time teacher of Modern Foreign Languages. The ability to teach two languages out of French, German and Spanish is essential and the ability to deliver one of these to A level would be desirable.

We are looking to appoint a member of staff who is able to demonstrate an innovative and forward thinking approach, with effective communication and interpersonal skills. Excellent subject knowledge is essential for working with these highly motivated and academically very able students.

The Modern Foreign Languages Department at South Wilts is large and successful. We are currently in a period of transition as we re-model our MFL provision. Historically, French and German have been equal first languages and these are taught to GCSE and A Level, as well as Spanish A Level (the latter as part of our open access sixth form). In the main school, this is our first year of offering Spanish in the lower school. This will mean we will start teaching Spanish GCSE in 2026. Results in all examinations are extremely good. Although choosing a language at GCSE is not compulsory, we are extremely proud of our very high uptake and our number of GCSE double linguists.

The Department sets high standards and is staffed by enthusiastic, committed specialist teachers. There are currently four full time and three part time teachers. We encourage students to communicate with confidence and to master the structure of a language. Staff are expected to use the target language as much as is sensible in the classroom. The Department is energetic and keen to embrace new technologies in MFL teaching.

We are looking to employ a well-qualified and engaging teacher. The successful candidate will wish to share their enthusiasm for languages with students and may wish to lead and participate in our annual trips. We are keen to appoint a flexible team player with good ideas and interpersonal skills.

Curriculum

In Year 7 all students begin French and German. All students then continue with French and German in Year 8, and start Spanish. They then choose the two languages they take forward to Year 9. In Year 10 all students are encouraged to take at least one foreign language and the GCSE examination is taken at the end of Year 11. Currently both French and German follow the AQA specification, and we will be teaching AQA Spanish GCSE from 2026. Under the option programme it is possible for a student to opt for two language subjects at GCSE. There is one group of French, German and Spanish at A Level. Currently all languages follow the AQA specification.

Year group / language	Number of timetable periods per fortnight	Teaching time equivalent per fortnight
Year 7 French	2	2 hours
Year 7 German	2	2 hours
Year 8 French	2	2 hours
Year 8 German	2	2 hours
Year 8 Spanish	3	3 hours
Year 9 first language	4	4 hours
Year 9 second language	3	3 hours
Year 10 GCSE option subject	5	5 hours
Year 11 GCSE option subject	5	5 hours
A Level option subject	8	8 hours

The Department is well resourced with five specialist class rooms equipped with an IWB. The Department has two specialist language seminar rooms for small group or one to one tuition. The French Department currently uses Tricolore 4 in Years 10-11 and Oxford AQA French A Level in Years 12-13. The German Department uses Oxford AQA German Higher in Years 10-11 and Oxford AQA German A Level in Years 12-13. The Spanish Department uses Oxford AQA Spanish for A Level. In all Key Stage 3 classes, the Department uses Sentence Builders to support the language learning of the students, rather than adherence to a text book, although we sometimes use Expo for French, Echo for German and ¡Viva! for Spanish. The Department has access to a variety of additional resources in French, German and Spanish and is committed to creating differentiated personalised resources for their students.

The French and German departments operate an annual immersion trip. Year 10 and 12 German students are offered a trip to Hallenthal. Year 10 and 13 French students are offered a trip to Normandy. The Department organises a variety of other cultural events throughout the year.

