**Department Information - Modern Foreign Languages**

**About Us**

The Modern Foreign Languages Department is a dynamic, enthusiastic, and forward-looking team of eight teachers and three foreign language assistants. We are a strong team that strives to enthuse and inspire our students in their learning of Languages and provide each student with the absolute best experience of learning a language. All teachers and assistants work together as a team, meeting regularly to share ideas and resources, with the aim of motivating students and raising standards. We are a department that is engaged in the latest developments in languages teaching and we are proud of our drive to keep developing and enriching the Teaching and Learning of languages.

Within the department, there is a Head of Modern Foreign Languages, a Coordinator of KS3 and KS4. Language teachers are encouraged to teach across the Key Stages and in the two Primaries in our Trust. We value our teachers and offer training to help them develop professionally. All new members of staff follow a comprehensive induction programme.

As Hinchley Wood School is part of a Multi Academy Trust, we are incredibly pleased to be teaching French to KS1 and KS2 at the neighbouring Hinchley Wood Primary School and Thames Ditton Junior School. Currently five teachers within the department teach French at Primary level, in addition to teaching at the Secondary School.

The department is accommodated on the first floor of the main building of the school. There are six MFL classrooms, access to ICT suites and a Modern Foreign Languageoffice. Each classroom is fully equipped with its own computer, visualizer and interactive whiteboard.

**Our Aims**

We passionately believe that every young person should be given the opportunity to develop their potential in at least one Modern Foreign Language and should learn to appreciate other languages and cultures. The Department currently offers French, German and Spanish in all Key Stages. We also do our best to support students with ‘community’ languages to gain a qualification in these languages.

**Languages**

All students at Hinchley Wood study two Modern Foreign Languages. In Year 7, students are currently taught French in mixed ability form groups. At the start of Year 8, most students take up an additional language either German or Spanish, which they learn alongside French until the end of Year 9.

In Years 10 and 11 students can opt to continue with French, German or Spanish at GCSE Level and have the option to take up two of these languages. Approximately half the KS4 cohort opt for at least one language and a steady number of pupils are opting for two languages at GCSE. In Key Stage 4 students are prepared for the new Edexcel GCSE in French, German or Spanish.  In Key Stage 5 students take the AQA ‘A’ Level in French, German or Spanish.

**Visits/Cultural Links/Extra curricular opportunities**

The Department offers a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities and has two thriving exchanges to Germany and Spain. Our student exchanges are extremely popular and have been highly successful in enhancing our students’ learning experience and inspiring them to continue and develop their language learning.

Other opportunities include:

* ‘Languages Week’ in September, including a language festival celebrating the many languages at Hinchley Wood School
* Regular KS3 competitions, for example Year 8 Poetry Competition and Year 7 Spelling Bee, Year 9 GCHQ competition, European Bake Off, Art inspired competitions and many more
* Year 9 Language Leaders Programme: students take the initiative and organize Language Clubs for younger year groups and teach primary students
* KS3 and 4 Spanish Exchange for Years 9 and 10
* KS4 German Exchange for Years 10 and 11
* German and Spanish Theatre performances
* BFI Film Trips
* Goethe Institut Trip
* Year 12/13 University/Theatre trips

**Staff List 2024/25**

Ms Feroza Bakharia Head of Modern Foreign Languages

Teacher of German and French

Mr Lucien Soyer MFL Coordinator KS4/Teacher of French and Spanish

Ms Georgia Ervin MFL Coordinator KS3/Teacher of French and Spanish

Mrs Anna Martin Assistant Head/Teacher of Spanish and French

Mrs Charlene Oozeer Teacher of German and French

Mrs Nancy Oliveira Serrao Teacher of Spanish and French

Mrs Silke Johns Teacher of German and French

Ms Helen Shires Head of Year 11/Teacher of French, German and Spanish

Mrs Samira Qazi MFL Assistant (German)

Mrs Marina Ingram MFL Assistant (French)

Ms Maria Denari MFL Assistant (Spanish)