

Modern Foreign Languages department at Bishops'

We are committed to making language learning challenging and engaging through high quality teaching and learning. We are looking to appoint an enthusiastic and well qualified linguist who will lead the continued development of the department and languages within the school. Bishops' is a high achieving, friendly and supportive school and is committed to continuing professional development. You will be well supported by your team, leaders and committed colleagues.

The department consists of four committed and experienced language specialists. The department is housed in a dedicated MFL block at the centre of the school which comprises four teaching rooms and a staff workroom. The department is well equipped with whiteboards in all rooms and a full range of up-to-date digital teaching and learning resources to enhance pupils' learning. We have links with the University of Chester MFL ITT team and we have organised visits abroad to France and Germany to broaden pupils' horizons and to bring language learning to life.

In the current model (which started in September 2021), students in Year 7 learn either French or Spanish and continue with this one language throughout KS3. Concentrating on one foreign language will provide pupils with a much stronger foundation and allow for greater progress through KS3 and beyond. However, at GCSE and A level students can still continue with either French or German. Over the course of the seven years, Spanish will eventually replace German but in the interim period, three languages are being taught. Both French and German are popular options at GCSE with excellent outcomes leading to both languages being offered at A level. Several of our recent students have gone on to pursue their language studies at university.

In Key Stage 3, our Schemes of Work are engaging and challenging and we have invested in excellent resources like Dynamo and Viva which provide a solid preparation for GCSE with a clear grammatical focus equipping the students to manipulate language with autonomy and develop their communication skills. We incorporate a wide range of topics as well as cultural learning and understanding. We provide students with knowledge organisers every half term to support and enhance their language learning. Classroom learning is consolidated through regular homework tasks set on the digital platform ActiveLearn. In Key Stage 4, we follow the GCSE Edexcel course and lessons are also delivered with the support of digital resources which develop and consolidate learning both inside and outside the classroom. The Edexcel course is also followed in Key Stage 5 and pupils are supported by weekly one-to-one speaking sessions with a foreign language assistant in addition to their timetabled lessons. We work collaboratively across both languages to ensure standardisation and parity within the department. We also work with other MFL departments across the county to share best practice and to keep abreast of the latest developments in language teaching.

The successful applicant will be able to teach Spanish and French with ideally the ability to teach at least one of them to A level. You will be expected to maintain high expectations and high academic standards, to have a deep interest in the attainment of students at every ability level and to show drive and initiative. The ideal candidate would have an ability and a willingness to contribute to the creation of engaging and challenging Schemes of Work, as well as a desire to participate in the wide ranging extra-curricular life of the school. Finally, we seek a teacher who supports the strong pastoral and Christian ethos of the school to enable all pupils to be 'Known, Nurtured and Inspired.'