

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Faculty

We know that studying a language is a skill which enables students to be successful in a wide variety of careers, and therefore MFL has always been in Bishop Stopford School's core curriculum at key stages 3 and 4. The Faculty is a thriving and successful place to be, where students are always encouraged to try something new and push themselves outside of their comfort zones.

We teach both French and Spanish, and the faculty comprises diverse and highly-skilled linguists, with a mix of international backgrounds and teaching experiences. We are fortunate to have native speakers, as well as staff with international teaching experience. Cultural capital abounds! What brings us together is a passion for teaching and learning languages, and a strong commitment to the progress and wellbeing of our students. We learn both culturally and linguistically every day from each other.

The Faculty is an academically stimulating environment; responsive to the learning needs of all those we teach. Students experience a wide range of activities in their language lessons ranging from the study of grammar and vocabulary, to creative use of ICT and developing cultural knowledge. This allows us to develop well-rounded, independent and curious learners. This rigorous, all-round approach has been highly successful and our external examination results, both at GCSE and at A level, have been consistently high. Extra-curricular opportunities are very much part of what we do here. There is an annual International Day for Year 8, combining language awareness and world trade. Students learn how language learning can benefit business and enterprise projects. We also organise visiting French, and Spanish theatre groups and sixth form trips to Madrid and Geneva. We offer an annual KS3 visit to either France or Spain too. There is a huge commitment to competitions and language enhancement, which the whole school supports. We always welcome new ideas from staff who would like to get involved and develop existing activities, or indeed, their own.

The Faculty is well resourced with a forward thinking approach to new technologies as well as book-based learning. Team work is genuinely at the heart of what we do, developing new resources and schemes of work for the GCSE and A level specifications, and using research extensively to influence our curriculum design.

For you and your career development, this is a supportive and unique place to be. We are research-focused, with staff completing local, NPQ and Masters level research. The productive atmosphere allows you to develop and refine your classroom practice to the highest levels. You will be supported in the development of your career, both in and out the classroom, by both the faculty and wider school.



Julie Rogers-Hussey, Head of Faculty

Vital Statistics

Faculty Members

5 full time and 1 part-time staff and a part-time admin assistant.

Facilities

7 specialist classrooms, each with projectors and a Faculty staff workroom.

GCSE

We follow AQA's French and Spanish specifications. All students study a language to GCSE level, apart from a very small minority who are withdrawn from MFL to pursue an alternative curriculum. There is a dual-linguist group at GCSE.

A Level

We follow AQA's French and Spanish specifications, which provide great continuity from GCSE. Historically our results have always been strong, achieving 100% of grade A*-C.

Enrichment

Year 8 International Day, Flying Theatre group visits, school and national languages competitions, Key Stage 5 trips to Geneva and Madrid ,KS3 visits to France and Spain.