



Barton Court Grammar School

MFL Department

Our vision in the Modern Foreign Languages department at Barton Court Grammar School is to provide our students with the opportunities to develop the skills and confidence required to consider themselves citizens of a global community where multiculturalism and a mutual understanding and respect for different cultures prevail. By providing our students with an understanding of other cultures and traditions, students will be more open and prepared for new experiences beyond the classroom and in the wider world as a whole.

To combat the common belief that Modern Foreign Languages are too challenging, the MFL Department has embraced an Extensive Processing Instruction (EPI) approach in KS3 and 4 MFL lessons. This approach promotes self-efficacy, reduces cognitive load and promotes resilience in language learning. Through repeated experiences of success in language lessons, our students build self-efficacy and are encouraged to be resilient in their language studies.

Key Stage 3

KS3 Spanish/French is delivered through three 60 minute lessons per fortnight per subject, and homework (either revision or written) is set in 2 of those lessons. Our Schemes of Work have been carefully designed to prepare our students for the new GCSE curriculum and we have various textbooks available to teachers to support with planning and delivery.

There are five key assessment objectives to languages - listening, reading, speaking, translation and writing. Typically at least 2/3 objectives can be assessed during any one 60 minute period.

Key Stage 4

All students must study at least one core language (either French or Spanish) to GCSE level, although we encourage all the good linguists to study two or three languages. The time allocation for KS4 is five 60 minute lessons per fortnight. German GCSE is also offered in KS4.

We currently follow the AQA board. The four component, listening, reading, writing and speaking, each attract 25% of the final mark awarded. There is a core language option block from which students choose either French or Spanish as well as a different block for German.

Students in Y11 study all of the following themes on which the assessments are based:

Theme 1: Identity and culture

Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

Assessment is by examination only at the end of Year 11.

Students in Year 9 and 10 study the reformed GCSE themes on which the assessments are based:

Theme 1: People and Lifestyle

Theme 2: Popular culture

Theme 3: Communication and the world around us

Key Stage 5

A LEVEL

Students will study 6 units in Year 12 and 6 in Year 13. All skills are tested each year. We follow the AQA specification. The new A level programme is composed of:

1. Social issues and trends
2. Political and artistic culture
3. A film is studied in Year 12
4. A book is studied in Year 13
5. Individual research project

Broadening Horizons – Beyond the curriculum

We have successful exchanges to Spain and France, which have run for a number of years now and we hope to continue doing these in the future. We also offer other trips during the enrichment week in July.

We offer a range of languages day through Enrichment Day, for instance the International Day of Languages, the Language Leadership Award, festival days, etc.

We also offer various opportunities to learn other languages that are not studied in the school, for example with the visits of Japanese, Korean and Swedish teachers, as well as Italian, Greek and Mandarin.

Facilities

The department uses different language software programmes that can be accessed at home as well as school. We have interactive whiteboards in every room and we use Smart board as part of our normal daily teaching.

Staffing

The following staff teach MFL courses:

Mr R Wilcock	Director of Modern Foreign Languages at Barton Court and Barton Manor, Teacher of French and Spanish. Lead Teacher of Careers Education.
Mrs A Croft-Cafferty	Second in charge: KS3 Coordinator and Lead Teacher of German. Lead Practitioner.
Mrs C Benard-Grosso	Snr Deputy Headteacher: Teaching and Learning; Thinking Schools; AST. Teacher of French and Spanish
Mr A Garcia	Teacher of Spanish
Mr I Cojez	Teacher of French and Spanish
Mrs Rahvar	Teacher of Spanish