

Modern Foreign Languages: FRENCH OR SPANISH

Type of Qualification: GCSE

How it is assessed: 100% Examination

Course Overview:

The courses develop all aspects of students' ability to use French or Spanish using the four communication skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. This builds on what has already been learnt at KS3 as well as introducing you to a wider range of language and topics. You will be assessed informally throughout the course on these four skills. In Year 11, your final exam will consist of:

- **Unit 1:** Listening examination – 25% of final grade
- **Unit 2:** Reading examination – 25% of final grade
- **Unit 3:** Speaking controlled assessment – 25% of final grade
- **Unit 4:** Writing controlled assessment – 25% of final grade

The course is divided into three key themes:

- **Theme 1:** Identity and Culture (family and friends/technology in everyday life/free time activities/festivals and customs).
- **Theme 2:** Local, national, international and global areas of interest (home, town, neighbourhood and region/social issues: charity work, healthy and unhealthy living/global issues: environment, poverty and homelessness/travel and tourism).
- **Theme 3:** Current and future study and employment (studies/life at school/education post-16/jobs and careers)

There is the potential to use a range of audio and visual resources and the use of ICT is encouraged.

Post 16 and Career opportunities:

A GCSE in a Modern Foreign Language is a key element which ensures an essential basis for progression to further study at AS/A Level, facilitates the learning of other languages and leads to plenty of exciting career and social opportunities. Many university courses offer a languages module enabling students to combine languages with other subjects such as business, medicine and law. Many courses also offer the opportunity of spending a year abroad.

We live in a global society, which is why the ability to communicate in other languages and understand other cultures is so important. A GCSE in a Modern Foreign Language can make a significant difference on the employment market and can lead to careers in teaching, interpreting, translating, sales, finance and marketing in many business sectors. Languages also help you develop self-confidence, your powers of deduction, communication and analytical skills, which are useful tools whatever your career plans may be.

