

# Modern Foreign Languages

## Keystage 3

Throughout KS3, students study a vast number of topics in French, including learning to speak about themselves, their families and their interests, and how to manipulate grammar to enable them to be more creative with their written and spoken French. Language skills are focussed on, in order that students become more confident tackling longer pieces of written or spoken French. In year 7, the pupils begin by learning a story in French in order to begin to make sound-spelling links and to improve pronunciation.

In years 8 and 9, pupils continue to study French, and top sets are also introduced to Spanish as a second language. The study of a second language will enable our students to further develop as linguists, and because both Spanish and French share Latin roots students will be able to apply the same skills used to learn French when tackling this second language.

## Keystage 4

At KS4 French is an optional subject that students may choose. Students learn to develop their language skills in a variety of contexts and to communicate their ideas about a variety of topics such as lifestyle, leisure, holidays, home and the environment and education and work. Students' progress in speaking, listening, reading and writing and are trained to understand and give opinions, recognise and use more accurately a widening range of vocabulary and structures, give full descriptions and accounts and cope with a greater deal of unpredictability.

We follow the new AQA exam course which is weighted 25% for each skill; writing, speaking, listening and reading.

## Further Information

The MFL department offers a range of thriving extra-curricular clubs such as French, Spanish and Japanese. French club is also run, enabling students to become involved with the cultural side of the language through cooking, drama, music and much more.

Students have the opportunity to experience French culture first hand by taking part in our school trips to Lille and Annecy. The trip to Lille is currently run for year 8 students and enables students to discover the French city on Bastille day; a day of celebration in France. Our trip to Annecy is for GCSE students and enables them to spend 6 days in the French alps discovering the town, a French school, many activities, and of course, having the opportunity to practise their language skills.

Our department also offers the opportunity to take part in the European day of Languages and we also often hire French theatre companies to put on pupil-aimed performances in our theatre.