

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES



The study of a Modern Foreign Language at A-level enables you to learn to communicate confidently and imaginatively in the chosen language. As well as developing your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, you will acquire a deeper understanding of the culture of the countries and the people whose language you are studying. You will also develop your skills in independently researching a chosen topic and presenting your ideas and opinions in the spoken and written language.

Lessons are conducted in the target language and an important part of your lesson time is the general conversation which is to encourage your spoken fluency. You will be encouraged to use the internet to watch television broadcasts and to read newspapers and magazines in the foreign language. Visits abroad are arranged privately or as part of the school exchanges.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A GCSE at grade A* or A in the appropriate language is required to study Modern Foreign Languages at A-level.

LINKS WITH OTHER SUBJECTS

The study of Modern Foreign Languages can be combined with the full range of other subjects, since it promotes analytical, critical and communication skills. A range of topics will be explored, including Current Affairs, Geography, History, Art and Literature.

HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Advanced language skills open opportunities in higher education, not only in the study of foreign languages but also in obtaining grants and scholarships for studying abroad. An A-level in a foreign language extends your career possibilities in many fields including international business, law, banking and the travel industry. The communication skills and confidence you acquire are an asset in any higher education course or career.

COURSE CONTENT

What follows is based on the draft specification which has yet to be approved. For French read also German and Spanish.

Exam Board: AQA

Paper 1 - Listening, Reading and Writing

- Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends
- Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues
- Artistic culture in the French-speaking world
- Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world

Paper 2 - Writing

- One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification

Paper 3 - Speaking

- One sub-theme from 'Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends' and one sub-theme from 'Artistic culture in the French-speaking world'.
- Individual research project
- One of four sub-themes ie 'Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends', 'Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues', 'Artistic culture in the French-speaking world', 'Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world'.