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Course Outline:

The following main topic areas are studied in Year 10 and 11

- Identity and culture
- Local, national, international and global areas of interest
- Current and future study and employment

Skills/attributes developed/required:

During this course, students will gain the linguistic skills to communicate with people speaking a different language and discover different ways of thinking, as the lessons embed cultural aspects of language learning. Authentic material from target language countries will be used in every day teaching.

Students who study a foreign language are encouraged to become better writers, speakers and conversationalists, so the skills they acquire in their Modern Languages lessons will also support them in their other subjects. Furthermore, scientific studies demonstrate that studying another language has a positive impact on brain development and functioning. It enhances creativity, memory, problem solving skills and ambiguity tolerance.

Examination Information

Exam Board: AQA

Course outline: Exams can be taken at a foundation (grades 1-5) or higher tier (grades 4-9). Each skill is worth 25% of the final grade.

- Listening Test – to test the understanding and responding to different types of spoken language
- Speaking Test – to test the ability to communicate and interact effectively in speech for a variety of purposes. The speaking exam consists of three parts: (i) Conversation about a photo stimulus card (ii) Short role play (iii) Short general conversation
- Reading Test – to test the understanding and response to different types of written language. This test also includes a short translation task (target language to English).
- Writing Test – Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes. This exams consists of the following tasks: (i) Listing words (ii) Responding to messages (iii) Translation from English into target language (iv) A structured writing task

Where can it take me?

Next Steps: Modern Languages graduates are very employable. Even if you do not continue to A-level or university, employers place considerable importance on a foreign language for GCSE.

Future career opportunities that this subject may lead to: Interpreter, Journalist, International Aid/ Development Worker, Logistics/ Distribution, Marketing, Engineer, Law, Tour Manager, Publishing, Hospitality, Air and Sea Transport Manager, Tourism, Diplomatic Service, Telecommunications, Finance.

What do Year 10 and 11 say about MFL?

“I think it’s important to take a language and I did really well in Spanish in the previous years and I really enjoy it.”

“I think it is fun and could help me get a job in the future as lots of businesses look for people with a language.”

“I find learning a language really interesting because I can make so many connections to the English language and learn lots of new skills and techniques.”