



Subject

Modern Foreign Languages

Curriculum Lead

Ms Grassi

'One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way'
Franck Smith



Curriculum Intent Summary:

Our objective is to introduce our students to a comprehensive MFL Curriculum which allows them to acquire a wide range of skills and knowledge, by offering a high-quality education that promotes diversity as well as tolerance, respect and curiosity towards other cultures in line with Catholic Social Teaching and the Ursuline values. We want to provide them with the ability to effectively communicate and express thoughts and justify their opinions in a foreign language for practical purposes and beyond. Our students should also be able to understand the importance and usefulness of knowing another language for both their personal and working lives. By careful planning and sequencing, our teachers will have covered a great variety of topics and key grammatical structures, which will allow students to successfully manipulate the language with increasing independence and confidence. We are fully committed to offering an inclusive, student-centred approach and cater to the needs of all learners, regardless of their background and ability.

Our MFL Department offers a wide range of extra-curricular activities such as lunch time clubs, day outings including a day trip to France and fundraising bake sales for Latin American Charities, which enhances collaboration and community cohesion. Students have several opportunities to explore appropriate authentic materials to enrich language learning, for instance, songs, poems and videos and to learn about French and Spanish speaking countries festivals, traditions and customs. They happily take part in the yearly European Day of Languages event through a series of linguistic games and competitions supporting our commitment to inclusion and diversity. Furthermore, we work closely with other departments and organise many cross curricular projects such as French song performances at our Christmas assembly (Music), art work descriptions in the target language (Art and Design Technology). In addition, careers related enrichment activities are built in our Schemes of Work, with reference to knowledge and skill- based learning linked explicitly to languages.

From Year 7, the Curriculum Area ensures that our students are prepared for Key Stage 4. The GCSE themes and topics are covered and practised through a variety of grammar and vocabulary exercises and also assessed, in the hope of developing resilience to troubleshoot when under pressure in exam situations.

Rationale for Curriculum Planning

Our Curriculum is interleaving in design, so that learning is spread out over time rather than being concentrated in short periods. In this way, it allows pupils to both progressively develop and revisit language as well as the four different skill types (Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing) through exposure to broad vocabulary and grammatical content, elaborating on what has been previously learned. The content builds in complexity, incorporating authentic and literary texts, role-play, translation, picture-based discussions throughout, all in preparation for KS4. The curriculum is also designed to encourage pupils to be adaptable in their learning, transferring vocabulary and skills to different topic areas, increasing their fluency as a result.