



Time, Equipment and Expenses:

Students will find it extremely rewarding to take part in the highly recommended exchanges which the department organises to France (Year 9) and to Germany and Spain (Year 10). They will become more confident speakers of the language and will significantly improve their comprehension skills and their awareness of another culture.

These trips take place for one week during school time, include residence with a host family, activities in the foreign school as well as visits to places of cultural interest.

The cost of these exchanges ranges from £350 - £450.

All pupils will be set 2 homework tasks of 45-60 minutes each per week, comprising a range of activities from core vocabulary learning, grammar consolidation, reading and listening comprehension, cultural research and speaking and writing tasks.

For more information please speak to Mrs Hopper, Head of MFL or your MFL Teacher

YOU MUST CHOOSE A MODERN LANGUAGE

GCSE FRENCH Exam Board: AQA (Code: Fr)
GCSE GERMAN Exam Board: AQA (Code: Gm)
GCSE SPANISH Exam Board: AQA (Code: Sp)

The Modern Languages department offers GCSE courses in French, German and Spanish, and students may opt to study one or more languages. We would like to encourage all students achieving good results at KS3 to consider how beneficial it will be for them to continue with two languages. The department has a history of very good GCSE results: 60-70% of grades are consistently at A*/A.

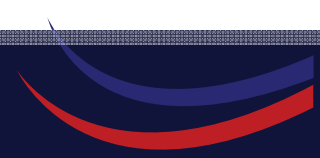
The new GCSE specification will be available for first teaching in September 2016. It is based around familiar, culturally relevant and engaging topics linked to the following contexts:

- **identity and culture** - including family, relationships, technology, leisure activities and important cultural traditions in countries speaking the target language
- **local, national, international and global areas of interest** - including local area, social issues, charity work, healthy living, environment, poverty and homelessness, travel and tourism
- **current and future study and employment** - including one's own studies, life and school and college, education post-16, and jobs, career choices and ambitions

Students are externally assessed at the end of the course in examinations in all four skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing. Each skill carries 25% of the marks. Translation to and from the target language is also assessed in the new qualification, and short (suitably adapted) literary passages from authentic target language texts are included in reading comprehension. A table outlining the assessment structure in more detail is shown overleaf.

In Year 9 our pupils will develop and consolidate core competences in grammatical knowledge, translation to and from the target language, given the increased focus on this skill in the new GCSE. They will also develop their speaking skills so that they can respond spontaneously in everyday situations - a highly relevant skill for their future as well as for the requirements of the new oral examinations. Year 9 also gives a valuable opportunity to develop the required extensive cultural component to embrace geography, history, customs and traditions.

A very good GCSE language qualification is highly regarded by many universities and employers. There are many opportunities for studying a language at university, either on its own or as a complement to virtually any other subject. Universities recognise that communication skills in a foreign language are a huge asset for a large number of careers, including journalism, politics, law, science, engineering, business and the tourism industry.



**AQA MFL: French (8658), German (8668),
and Spanish (8698)
Assessment Structure**

	Paper 1 Listening	Paper 2 Speaking	Paper 3 Reading	Paper 4 Writing
When	Summer 2019 exam session	April/May 2019	Summer 2019 exam session	Summer 2019 exam session
What's assessed	Understanding and responding to different types of spoken language	Communication and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purposes	Understanding and responding to different types of written languages	Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes
How it's assessed	Written exam:	Teacher-run, marked externally. 7-9 mins (foundation) + 10-12 mins (higher)	Written exam;	Written exam:
	35 mins (foundation) - 40 marks 40 mins (higher) - 50 marks	Preparation time allowed . 60 marks	45 mins (foundation) and 1 hour (higher) 60 Marks	1 hour (foundation)(60 marks) 1hr 15 mins (higher)(60 marks)
	25% of GCSE	25% of GCSE	25% of GCSE	25% of GCSE
Questions	Foundation and Higher	Foundation and higher	Foundation and higher	Foundation:
	Section A: Q&A in English	Role play (2 mins)	Section A: Q&A in English	Q1: short messages
	Section B: Q&A in Fr/Gm/Sp	Photo card (2-3 mins)	Section B- Q&A in Fr/Gm/SP	Q2: Short passage - 40 wds
		General conversation (5-7 mins)	Section C: Translation from Fr/Gm/Sp into English	Q3: translation from English to Fr/Gm/Sp Q4: Structured writing - c. 90 words Higher: Q1: Structured writing - response to compulsory detailed bullet points - 90 wds Q2: Open-ended writing task - response to 2 detailed bullet points - c 150 words Q3: translation from English to Fr/Gmn/Sp (m in 50 words)