

# MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

## French & Spanish

### The aims of the courses are:

- to develop the ability to use French and/or Spanish effectively for the purposes of practical communication.
- to form a sound base of the skills, language and attitudes required for further study, work and leisure.
- to offer insights into the culture and civilisation of French and/or Spanish-speaking countries.
- to develop an awareness of the nature of language learning.
- to provide enjoyment and intellectual stimulation.
- to encourage positive attitudes to foreign language learning and to speakers of foreign languages, together with a sympathetic approach to other cultures and civilisations.

Pupils have access to an online interactive platform where they can practise their comprehension skills, improve their vocabulary and complete homework tasks. They are also provided with study booklets they can refer to for revision, writing tasks and reading comprehension. Use is also made of a wide range of audio recordings and videos. Numerous websites are available to support pupils' learning. As well as learning how to communicate in French/Spanish, pupils study aspects of life in contemporary France and Spain and French and Spanish-speaking countries.

In Spanish, and for some groups in French, pupils follow the Edexcel GCSE syllabus, and the scheme of assessment consists of two papers assessing comprehension in spoken and written Spanish/French, one writing paper and a speaking exam taken at the end of the GCSE course.

Both French and Spanish pupils have access to an assistant to develop speaking further in small groups of one to two.

In French, pupils are following the Edexcel IGCSE course which is assessed with one paper testing reading and writing skills. Writing is tested with

two tasks: one task consisting of a piece of writing no longer than 75 words and another one no longer than 130 words. Candidates will also prepare for a final speaking examination at the end of the course.

A stay in a French or Spanish-speaking country during the course can be of enormous benefit and is strongly recommended. The Department is able to suggest ways in which individual arrangements for such visits may be made through various organisations or via our links with French Secondary Schools.

Further details about French and Spanish may be obtained from any of the Modern Languages staff.

**Mrs C T Stroud**  
**Head of Modern Languages**