

MFL Department

Intent:

Learning a foreign language is freedom from insularity and provides an opening to other cultures. We aim to foster pupils' curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world around us. We work to develop global citizens who value and celebrate the characteristics which make places and people across the world unique.

MFL teaching should enable pupils to express their ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and in writing. It should also provide opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes, learn new ways of thinking and read, listen to authentic materials. We aim to provide the foundation for learning further languages and equip pupils with the ability to use languages for work/study/ leisure.

By learning a foreign language, we aim to support students' awareness of their own, reinforcing vocabulary, grammar, conjugation, comprehension, idioms and sentence structure. Thus, making our pupils more effective communicators in both speaking and writing.

Implementation:

In MFL we use a variety of teaching and learning strategies to ensure all students are challenged, engaged and enjoy lessons.

Pupils will not only develop skills in listening, reading, writing and speaking but also transferable skills such as applying knowledge to new situations, problem solving and creativity.

The curriculum progresses from the use of phonics to word and statement level through to grammatical understanding and communicating independently using a broad range of extended language in a variety of situations. Within lessons teachers are highly skilled in using the target language in a way that allows pupils to understand it and begin to use it spontaneously themselves. There is a big emphasis on intercultural understanding, and a strong focus on literature, translation and dictation. We use a wide range of authentic materials and pupils are encouraged to read and listen to the foreign language for pleasure.

Beyond the classroom:

We aim to give the pupils the opportunity to participate in trips abroad, allowing them to experience different cultures and use their languages in real life situations.

Where this is not possible, we seek to find other means of using the foreign language for real purposes such as corresponding with a penfriend, writing letters to organisations.

We subscribe to several websites, which allow students to access resources beyond the classroom, and we encourage pupils to independently study courses such as Michel Thomas, Duolingo and Coffee Break podcasts.

We also encourage pupils to subscribe to the language magazines available for learners – such as Allez-y.