



THE MFL DEPARTMENT

The Modern Foreign Language Department consists of a committed, enthusiastic and energetic team of language teachers, both native and non-native speakers as well as the Foreign Language Assistants who play an important role in developing pupils' spoken competence and raising students' awareness of the culture of countries where the target language is spoken.

Our aim is to develop a life-long love of language learning in our students, to build their cultural awareness and to ensure that every student is able to reach his/her full potential. We will achieve this by delivering outstanding language lessons, which are well-structured, engaging and relevant to learners.

All pupils will begin studying two languages in Year 7 which they will carry forward into Yr8. Students are strongly advised to continue with at least one language in Yr9 and those who demonstrate a flair for languages could also take on a second language in year 9. In Years 10 and 11 pupils will work towards a GCSE qualification in one or two of their chosen languages. With a strong record of results, many students seek opportunities to read languages at top universities as a single or joint honours degree after completing their A Levels at our school.

We currently have links with schools in France, Germany and Spain and the department organises exchanges and visits abroad each year along with many other enrichment opportunities organised by the MFL Society within the school.

About the Mandarin Department

The Mandarin department has been growing steadily over the last few years as the significance of China and Mandarin-speaking people in today's world is greater than ever before. Our students enjoy the challenge and they embrace the subject with enthusiasm and success. Mandarin is offered to Yrs 7-11 as part of the curriculum as well as in the Sixth Form where students will have the opportunity to explore various genres across a wide range of historical periods as well as Literature.

As part of the Confusions programme, each year the department organises a celebration of the Chinese New Year with a range of food and student performances. We take part in the national Mandarin Chinese speaking and writing competition. We also organise a study trip to China and a variety of trips to London to visit Chinese exhibitions and Chinatown.