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# MFL

Curriculum Newsletter

## YEAR 12

### Contact



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# Curriculum Intent

The MFL curriculum is designed to empower students to draw maximum cultural, personal and economic benefit from the role of global citizenship. Through the promotion of oracy, expansion of vocabulary and literacy we seek to enable students to communicate confidently and without barriers in a wide range of social settings and media. In KS5 we believe that our curriculum and enrichment content promotes a seamless transition into the A-Level language course from KS4.

In order to do this the MFL curriculum is sequenced to allow knowledge and skills to develop simultaneously and progressively. By revisiting and enhancing key language skills in different settings students develop their ability to recall, analyse and evaluate usage and at the same time build independence and resilience. We have a duty to ensure our students understand and engage with other cultures and traditions in a respectful and inquisitive manner which will allow them to become more open-minded, empathetic and adaptable to new experiences in the future at home or abroad. Ultimately, we aim to foster in our students a love of languages by nurturing a linguistic curiosity, their self-efficacy and an intrinsic motivation to explore and respect other languages, cultures and people.

## Year 12 Curriculum

The A-level language course offers students a truly exciting and in-depth study of their chosen language. Students have the opportunity to enhance and refine their language skills building on prior knowledge and learning a breadth of new vocabulary through engaging topics. The topics studied at A-Level enable students to develop confidence and consistently improve their fluency and understanding of complex grammar.

Furthermore, all topics are infused with real life examples of current issues affecting French and Spanish speaking countries, as well as important themes linked to cultural heritage. This enables students to become immersed in the culture from the very start of the course. The literary texts and films also give students essential skills such as learning to analyse and evaluate sources in a foreign language whilst simultaneously enhancing their essay writing skills.

### Spanish

#### Aspects of Hispanic Society

- Influence of cyberspace
- Modern and traditional values
- Equality of sexes

#### Artistic culture in the Hispanic World

- Spanish regional identity
- Cultural heritage
- Modern day idols
- Film study (Pan's Labyrinth)

### French

#### Aspects of French-speaking Society - Current trends:

- The changing nature of family
- The 'cyber-society'
- The place of voluntary work

#### Artistic culture in the French-speaking World:

- A culture proud of its heritage
- Contemporary francophone music
- Cinema: the 7th art form

Film study (Entre Les Murs or La Haine)

## Assessment Points

At A-Level students are continuously assessed throughout the course in lessons on a range of skills; listening, reading, translation, writing, speaking and grammar. Students also sit mock examinations in listening, reading, speaking and writing throughout the year.

### Immerse Yourself

#### Language Nut

 Vocab Trainer

 Listening Trainer

#### Kerboodle

 Interactive Homework

 Study Guides and Videos

A-level French Handbook

A-level Spanish Handbook

Y12 are provided with a course handbook (for detailed information on the course), module vocabulary packs and an independent research booklet that allows them to gather knowledge linked to wider research and reading (one of the key objectives at A-level).

After each topic, students will create a mind map pulling together key course information and research/facts/figures to use in their speaking exam at the end of the course.

Y12 students also have 'Exam Launch' guides for the main type of exam questions which act as a step by step skill based guide on how to succeed for that particular exam question. This together with the vocabulary packs mean students have access to the full content and skill range of the AQA specification. These are a great revision tool for Mocks and all assessments as well as the final exams.

In Y12, students are given three pieces of homework each week consisting of vocabulary learning, independent research and one additional task (online or a skill based worksheet).

## Test Your Knowledge with Quizlet...

Quizlet's is a fantastic way to memorise relevant French and Spanish terms to help you with your studies. Here, students are encouraged to make their own lists using specification vocabulary to ensure their vocabulary bank is ever increasing. Click on a flag below to start!



Key Vocabulary is shared each lesson and is categorised within the course textbook. Students should ensure they engage regularly with this key vocabulary to be successful at this course as well as working to expand their vocabulary independently.

# Praise and Reward

Our rewards system can be broadly split into four categories: classroom level, subject level, school level and privilege rewards. We'll focus on classroom and subject rewards here - for more information about our rewards schemes, please see our website.

## CLASSROOM LEVEL REWARDS

Awarded for: working hard, taking risks and rising to a challenge, making mistakes and learning from them, helping others, and taking pride in the school community.

Rewarded by: praise postcards, positive phone calls to parents/carers, positive text messages home, and lesson based prizes.

## SUBJECT LEVEL REWARDS

Reward scheme: Star of the Week, Curriculum Awards (Subject/School Way, Participation, Working with Pride, Embracing the Whole Curriculum), High Flyer, Extra Mile, Most Improved.

Rewarded by: names displayed on reward boards, certificates, social media posts.

# Broadening Horizons

In MFL we aim to foster a learning environment supporting students to become global citizens. Our use of cultural resources interleaved throughout the curriculum, help to bring the language to life in the classroom, creating cultural experiences for all.

Outside of language lessons there are opportunities for students to develop an awareness and love of different cultures. Throughout the A-level curriculum students constantly research and form opinions on cultural topics.

As part of the speaking assessment students prepare an Independent Research Project (IRP), enabling them to have dedicated study time for intense research on a topic of their choice from the French/Spanish speaking world. Furthermore, students have the opportunity to attend a workshop at Sheffield University to get expert advice on writing an essay and film analysis which is an essential part of their A-Level course.

In Year 12, students will complete a film study in French or Spanish allowing them to explore a range of different themes, characters, cinema and film techniques whilst simultaneously developing their language skills.



## La Haine - A French Film Study

La Haine, the controversial 1995 drama that held up a mirror to the social ills of modern France, arrived during a dark time in the country's history. This was dazzling cinema but most importantly, it was the first time the banlieue had ever been represented to a mainstream French audience. The film was an immediate and massive hit and galvanised the part of France that knew the banlieues existed but had never seen them up close or dealt with in a sympathetic way.

## El Laberinto del Fauno - A Spanish Film Study

In 1944, in the post-Civil War in Spain, rebels still fight in the mountains against the Falangist troops. The young and imaginative Ofelia travels with her pregnant and sick mother Carmen Vidal to the country to meet and live with her stepfather, the sadistic and cruel Captain Vidal, in an old mill. During the night, Ofelia meets a fairy and together they go to a pit in the centre of a maze where they meet a faun that tells that she is a princess from a kingdom in the underground.



# Careers

We run a series of 'Careers in the Curriculum' weeks in our school. For Modern Foreign Languages, this week takes place in February.

During MFL lessons, we investigate languages around the world and the importance of language learning in the global jobs market. Careers lessons raise students' awareness and understanding of where languages can take you. Check out the youtube short by clicking on the logo below where BBC Ideas explore why being bilingual is good for your brain.



## The MFL Way

Our subject has a 'Subject Way' at the heart of it. Our Subject Way is designed to help students become young subject specialists. The MFL Way is followed in all of our lessons and has two main purposes:

Firstly, to teach students the vital skills they need to achieve their full potential and gain the very best grades they can. Secondly, to teach students how each subject relates to the wider world, incorporating the life skills they will learn.



## Have Your Say... ✨

At WPT we're always looking for feedback. If you have any thoughts/opinions on this Curriculum Newsletter, its content or the curriculum in general, please click on the title to fill out a short feedback form.