

Modern Foreign Languages department

Year 5 and 6 - Key Stage 2

Pupils are taught French in mixed ability tutor groups. The department caters for pupils who have existing French language skills and for those who are new language learners. The aim is to encourage enthusiasm and interest in both culture and language, and to engage pupils in activities that develop understanding, are accessible and challenging to all abilities.

Years 7, 8 and 9 - Key Stage 3

Year 7 pupils study French in one of two sets.

Year 8 pupils continue with French in sets and begin to learn German in their mixed ability tutor groups.

Year 9 pupils are taught both languages in sets.

The department follows QCA and National Curriculum guidelines for Key Stage 3 as well as the Framework for MFL. Although topics are taught, the focus is not just on a prescribed body of content, but on a structure for language learning and the acquisition of language skills common to all language learning. Rather than learning nouns and set phrases the emphasis is on understanding the underlying structures of the language. The long-term aim is to encourage mastery and to enable pupils to become independent language learners. At the end of Key Stage 3 pupils select one or more MFL and progress to GCSE.

The department is well equipped and provides learners with engaging and motivating resources. Pupils have access to a course book, they record their class work and notes in exercise books, and each pupil has a differentiated homework activity book.

Pupils access reinforcement tasks by visiting www.languageskills.co.uk.

Pupils are assessed regularly using National Curriculum grade descriptors and levels; each receives feedback, progression being planned through agreed target setting.