



Modern Foreign Languages French/German/Spanish

Exam Board: AQA

Contact teachers: Mrs F Lunskey, Miss C Charpentier, Mrs C Rampton, Mrs S Long

Why study Languages?

Mastering a language can broaden your employment horizons - a native English speaker with a foreign language is a valued employee to any company with worldwide operations. Pursuing languages at A Level provides you with the prospect of improving your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills to a very proficient level. This course is for students who want to study languages at university, work abroad in the future or understand more about the culture, history, and politics of countries where the language is spoken. It is also for those who see learning a language as a useful and intellectual challenge. Language A levels are challenging and facilitating subjects that go well with all others and always impress university admissions tutors and employers. This course includes an independent research task which allows you to explore an area of your own interest, which you will discuss in detail in your speaking exam. Students have chosen subjects as diverse as boat building, motor racing, rock music, traditional costume or cuisine and architecture to research in past years. Linguists from Midhurst Rother College have gone on to study languages at many universities, including those in London, Exeter, and Bristol.

Course details

Year 1

Listening, reading, writing and speaking skills are tested on the following topics:

- Media: TV, advertising and communication technology
- Popular culture: cinema, music and fashion/trends
- Healthy living/lifestyle: sport/exercise, health and well-being and holidays
- Family/relationships: relationships within the family, friendships and marriage/partnerships

Year 2

Listening, reading, writing and speaking skills are tested on the following topics:

- Environment: pollution, energy and protecting the planet
- Multi-cultural society: immigration, integration and racism
- Contemporary social issues: wealth and poverty, law and order, the impact of scientific and technological progress
- Cultural topic: the study of a novel plus the study of a film from that country/community - discussion of themes and essay writing in the target language on both works

How is the course taught and assessed?

Lessons involve oral discussion of the topics studied, with the oral examination being carried out by your own teacher. Individual listening practice is done in school and at home online, including watching and listening to current affairs programmes or the news. The listening examination is completed with students having control of the listening material on their own computer. Dictionaries are not allowed in the examination, so a wide vocabulary is vital to ensure success. There is no coursework and formal assessment is completed at the end of the two years. Practice of the relevant skills will be a constant element of the course.

Entry requirements

Anyone intending to take a Modern Language at A level will be expected to have achieved a high grade 6 or above in the relevant language.