

SPANISH

COURSE OVERVIEW

Modern foreign languages focus on vocabulary and grammar while developing listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Learning a language also involves understanding the culture, covering topics like arts, history, economics and media.

Students study all of the following themes on which the assessments are based.

Theme 1: Identity and culture

Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

The course builds on work completed in Year 9. Students will continue to develop the four key skills of reading, listening, writing and speaking and will have the opportunity to work with the Spanish Assistant to learn about the culture of Spanish-speaking countries.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS DEVELOPED

The course will give you cultural knowledge whilst developing your language skills. By the end of Year 11, you will be able to:

- Follow and understand clear standard speech and written texts across a range of contexts;
- Take part in a short conversation, asking and answering questions, and exchanging opinions;
- Produce clear and coherent extended written work to present facts and express ideas and opinions.

Speaking another language makes you stand out from the crowd and helps you gain many transferable skills such as problem-solving, the ability to work in a team, flexibility and greater awareness of other cultures. You will also develop your communication, critical thinking, independence, resourcefulness and adaptability which are all vital skills for the workplace.

Qualification: **GCSE**

Awarding Body: **AQA**

ASSESSMENT METHOD

The assessment is split into 4 papers:

- 25% - Writing examination and translation
- 25% - Speaking examination with class teacher
- 25% - Listening examination
- 25% - Reading examination

There is a higher and foundation tier available for each.

POST 16 OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREERS

As well as the educational benefit of studying a language and the academic rigour this involves, the course also opens many doors in careers and academic life.

Employers are keen on finding candidates with a language qualification at any level and the salary offered can be higher by 8 to 20%. Here are a few examples of careers where languages are needed or useful:

International Law and Government, Management and Marketing, Travel and Tourism, Translation, Engineering, Teaching, Medicine.

One of the effects of Brexit is that employers cannot rely on hiring EU candidates and therefore the demand for UK based candidates with language will increase.

Languages are facilitating subjects, according to The Russell Group of universities (Group which includes top 24 universities in the UK). Facilitating subjects are subjects which can set candidates apart and give them an advantage during the selection process.

Whether you want to develop your communication skills, multi-task effectively, become adept at analysing situations and coming up with solutions, languages can help you build the skill set you need to get ahead.

“Spanish is a lot of fun as it is a cool language but it can be very difficult at times so you have to commit to it and really try your hardest. It is very rewarding though and will be worth it in the end.”