

## GCSE FRENCH / SPANISH

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### WHAT IS THE SUBJECT ABOUT?

You will study French or Spanish to GCSE, which will enable you to communicate in the foreign language. You will learn to understand the spoken and written forms of your foreign language and develop the ability to make yourself understood.

Languages are in demand more than ever in today's world as we compete with and export our goods to our European neighbours.

A GCSE in a modern foreign language is one of the key parts of the English Baccalaureate. If you want to achieve this qualification you will need a GCSE in a modern foreign language.

### HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

- All exams will be externally assessed.
- There will be no controlled assessment (coursework).
- The oral exam will be internally conducted but assessed by a visiting examiner.
- The weighting for the four skills (Speaking, Reading, Listening and Writing) will be 25% each.
- Some translation activities will be included in the Reading paper and the Writing paper.

### WHAT WILL I DO IN LESSONS?

The course is divided into topic areas and themes which cover the following :-

Personal Information

Media and Culture

Travel and Tourism

Customer Service and Transactions

Future Plans, Education and Work

You will be expected to complete a variety of speaking and writing. You will learn to read in depth and listen to real French/Spanish speakers through short videos and music. All the materials we use emphasize the French/Spanish culture and identity. You will also take part in short speaking activities, which will not only improve your pronunciation but help you to be more spontaneous with unpredictable questions. Finally, you will acquire a deeper understanding of how language works and learn some translation techniques.

### WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO CONSIDER?

For any language at GCSE you will need to purchase a dictionary. You may also find grammar and phrase books useful. Access to the internet is very helpful.

### WHAT DO STUDENTS THINK OF THE SUBJECT?

"It can help you to enter big universities and it is good to have for a better job."

"It gives you an insight into a different country. I went to France and people appreciated my effort to speak in French."

"You can go abroad and have a good idea of how to order food, ask the way or get medical help. You enjoy your holiday more."