

Modern Foreign Languages

Welcome! Bienvenus! Bienvenidos!

In the Modern Languages department at The Dorcan Academy we strive to develop confident and successful students through the study of an engaging curriculum delivered with consistent, high-quality teaching. We are passionate about teaching and learning languages and we believe that language learning should be enjoyed by all students.

Course Details:

Key Stage 3

All students study French in Years 7, 8 and 9. In these years, students are introduced to foreign language learning and we explore the culture of francophone nations. Emphasis is placed on practical communication and development of speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. We play many games to help students remember vocabulary whilst also building up key grammar skills in readiness for KS4. In KS3 we teach a range of creative topics ranging from personal information to writing fairy tales, human rights and cinema. In year 8 there is the opportunity to go on a residential trip to France, which has been linked with the History and Art departments in the past. During this trip, students get the opportunity to use French in a real-life situation, visit important monuments and art galleries, and spend a day at Disneyland.

We strive to develop a passion for languages and a strong basis of learning that will allow students to be successful in their GCSE. Students on our Extended Curriculum have the opportunity to study two languages throughout KS3. In KS3 Home Learning is set on a fortnightly basis and is a mixture of learning vocabulary and written work.

Key Stage 4

We believe that languages are for all and therefore, at The Dorcan Academy, the vast majority of students, (apart from a small group of students following our tailored Vocational Curriculum) take at least one language to GCSE level. The languages offered are French and Spanish and students must choose at least one, though there is the option of doing two. GCSEs in both French and Spanish are assessed through four exams, one for each skill of listening, speaking, reading and writing. The grades awarded range from 1-9. GCSE students are expected to build on what they learn in KS3, work independently and express themselves whilst developing key skills. In KS4 Home Learning is set on a weekly basis and is a mixture of learning vocabulary and written work.