



Dudley Academies Trust – The Link Academy

Statement of Curriculum Intent - Modern Foreign Languages: French & Spanish

The MFL department at The Link Academy is committed to providing the students with the best possible experience of language learning. We aim to instil in our pupils an appreciation of the importance of learning a foreign language. We actively seek to develop pupils' interest in learning a MFL through tolerance, respect and understanding of other people and cultures. We introduce pupils in Year 7 to learning a foreign language in a way that is lively, interesting and relevant, equipping them with the skills to thrive in today's challenging world. This continues in KS4 through our delivery of a curriculum that is both ambitious and relevant, planned and delivered in such a way as to ensure that students are given the knowledge and cultural capital to be successful in the future.

How will this be achieved in our curriculum?

In KS3, the department focus is on building the foundations for a positive language learning experience. Language lessons will seek to broaden cultural awareness, build pupil confidence and develop motivated and aspirational linguists.

Learners in top set French will have the opportunity to broaden their language learning experience by beginning the study of Spanish.

The KS3 National Curriculum for Languages aims to ensure that pupils:

- understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources
- speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity
- can write at varying length, using the range of grammatical structures they have learnt
- discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied.

By the end of KS3, students will be able to:

- communicate effectively in the target language with increasingly accurate pronunciation and intonation
- listen for information to a variety of spoken language and respond appropriately
- translate a range of written tasks
- ask and answer questions in past, present and future tenses
- write creatively, expressing their ideas and opinions with justifications.

The AQA FCSE course is followed, which provides students with a solid foundation on which to build their language knowledge, easing the transition to GCSE for those students who choose to pursue language study in KS4.

How does assessment fit in?

Regular assessment takes place throughout the year and takes the form of both informal (e.g. routine spelling tests, homework translation tasks, class listening tests) and formal testing of all four skills (FCSE assessments in KS3, GCSE exam-based assessments, KS4 PPE tests).

- FCSE assessments are conducted in class in exam conditions at the end of each term.
- Students complete assessments in all four skills: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing.
- Depending upon the total marks achieved in the best three units of work, students will be awarded a Pass, Merit or Distinction.
- Students who opt to continue with GCSE French will extend the vocabulary skills and knowledge acquired in KS3 and be assessed by the Eduqas exam board in the four skills (Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing)

How does extra-curricular for MFL benefit our learners?

Encouraging learners to develop their language skills through language games and activities, working with others to develop their interpersonal and team work skills.

Our aim is that through the provision of extra-curricular sessions for learners they widen their cultural experience and appreciation for other cultures.