**Languages Faculty - Our Vision: ‘Communication unites us all’**

As a Languages Faculty, we offer students the opportunity to broaden their horizons and enhance their opportunities by providing a nurturing, supportive and caring environment where students feel confident to get involved and are willing to put themselves beyond their comfort zone, safe in the knowledge that failure is simply another word for “opportunity to learn”.

These opportunities to learn extend well beyond the four walls of the conventional classroom. Whilst studying languages at Hayesfield students take part in foreign language exchanges, visits to France and Spain in enrichment week and explore further afield in Sixth Form by taking part in a month-long adventure to another continent.

In preparation for these potentially life-changing opportunities, we provide access to dedicated foreign language assistants – native speakers employed purely to support and develop the verbal communication skills of our students. We couple this self-improvement opportunity with strong links to local primary schools, where students have the chance to share their love of language learning and inspire the next generation of linguists.

The Languages Faculty firmly believes that the key to a successful life is the ability to communicate effectively with those around you. The skills students learn through studying a foreign language will facilitate them along this journey as well as supporting their learning across the curriculum – to be a successful linguist we believe that students need to be able to analyse, rationalise, hypothesise, and criticise, as well as being able to create, contemplate, postulate and innovate.

Currently, students in Year 7 study French and in Year 8 they can try Spanish too. We run GCSE classes in Spanish, French, and Latin. The majority of students study at least one language to GCSE (over 84%). We follow the AQA exam board. You will be provided with all the resources you need to teach all classes and levels. We share common PowerPoints and other resources.

**Our GCSE results are as follows:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Year**  | **Languages Value added score** |
| 2016 | +0.01 |
| 2017 | +0.4 |
| 2018 | +0.34 |
| 2019 | +0.03 |
| 2020 | +0.86 |

**2020 A Level Results:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Subject | Exams | A\* | A | B | C | D | E |
| A - French | 5 | 2 |  | 2 | 1 |  |  |
| A - Spanish | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 |  |  |  |

 At A level we have been more successful than most schools in reinforcing the importance of continuing with a language and we are very pleased with our numbers. In Spanish we have 23 students and in French we have 16 students. We use Eduqas exam board.

Alongside our trips and exchanges to Cόrdoba and Montpellier, we also have a thriving programme of extra-curricular activities, including Latin and Language leaders’ clubs. Many students also train to be International Ambassadors and support the school during Open Evenings and other events.

We are in our fifth year running one of the ‘TSST’ centres for the South West, through which we offer bespoke training for 20 teachers, aimed at encouraging existing teachers to teach a new language at KS3 or improve their practice at KS4. We could even help you to upskill in another language.

We provide all new staff with a subject-specific mentor who will work closely with you to develop your knowledge of the Languages Faculty policies and procedures and help develop your subject teaching skills. This mentor is also your very own point of personal contact and support.

Mrs Catherine Blyth

**Head of Languages Faculty**