



Modern Foreign Languages

Key Stage 4 Options Evening

GCSE Exam

Reading (25%) + translation into English

Listening (25%)

Speaking (25%) teacher examined, marked externally

Writing: (25%) + translation into French/Spanish

New GCSE Specification

Same 4 skills are being tested

All questions on the papers will be in English

There is less vocabulary to learn

Students will read aloud a short text in Spanish/French

In general, it is more accessible and marking is more compassionate

Course structure

3 lessons a week: one single and one double

Access to digital textbook

Wide variety of apps and online resources

Authentic materials

What language should I choose?

**Which one do you
enjoy the most?**

**What have you
achieved so far?**

**What is your
motivation?**

7 Reasons to **Learn a Language**

1

Improve your communication skills

Being able to communicate is one of the most important skills that you will need in both your personal and professional life. As a result of learning a new language and your new ways of thinking, not only will you find that you can express yourself much better and even become a more effective communicator in English, but you will also be able to create connections with a broader range of people.





Gain cultural awareness and empathy

One of the greatest gifts of language learning is its ability to expand your cultural understanding of other people and how they see the world. Learning the native language of other people creates a bridge between your world and theirs – one that allows for tolerance, the sharing of ideas and building a sense of community.

2

3

Boost your confidence

Being multilingual is no small feat, but rather something to be proud of! Speaking a second language will develop you intellectually and emotionally – ultimately improving your self-esteem and trust in your abilities and making you feel more empowered to reach your goals. You will never forget the first time you converse with someone in their native language and the overwhelming sense of accomplishment you will feel afterwards!





Strengthen your problem-solving skills

Learning a new language is essentially one big problem-solving equation - your brain is constantly trying to figure out which word or phrase you need to say in order to express something urgently. Language learning enhances your critical and creative thinking skills and fine-tunes your ability to make decisions through enhanced concentration, multi-tasking capabilities, and greater listening skills.

5

Sharpen your memory

With all the new vocabulary and phrases you will memorise as part of learning a new language, you will greatly improve both your short-term and long-term memory skills. You will find that you can recall information at the drop of a hat, and without even realising it!





Stand out from the crowd

Speaking a second language is one of the top skills requested by employers in today's job market, regardless of job sector or skill level. Having a second or third language under your belt will solidify your competitive edge over other candidates when you are looking for your future dream job, not to mention the higher salary rates you can look forward to!

7

See the world

One of the most exciting reasons to learn a new language, and arguably the most fun, is to travel! Speaking the native language of new countries that you visit will allow you to communicate more easily with locals, get to know the country's authentic culture, and build life-long friendships along the way – which all adds up to one heck of an adventure!



We teamed up with professional footballer, **Eric Dier**, to shine a light on language learning.



What our Year 10

students say...



Why is it important to do a Language at GCSE?

It gives you loads of opportunities to communicate with people from all around the world

It will support any career opportunities in other countries

What do you like about doing 2 languages at GCSE?

Being able to learn simple phrases in the classroom feels rewarding

How do you think doing a language at GCSE will be useful for the future?

It gives you an endless list of possibilities

Isn't it hard to do 2 languages?

The rewards of learning two languages outweigh the difficulties

It gets easier because the grammar is similar and there are lots of cognates

What would you tell those that think they aren't good enough to do a Language at GCSE?

Don't doubt yourself, there was a point when you couldn't even speak English!



Any questions?

Irene Távora
ixt@hardenhuish.wilts.sch.uk