

4: WRITING exam - 25% of the final grade.

Pupils will be assessed on their ability to: express ideas, attitudes, feelings, and opinions, giving reasons where appropriate, refer to and narrate past, present, and future events. Pupils are not expected to be able to write fluently and freely in the language, though some pupils may achieve this. This component also includes some translation from English into French/Spanish.

There are two tiers of entry:

- Higher tier gives pupils access to grades 9-4
- Foundation tier gives access to grades 5-1.

Pupils must do all four exams at the same entry level; they cannot mix and match. The decision about tiers is not made until pupils have completed some assessments in Y10.

Additional Information

The Hardenhuish school community is full of different languages and the global world of employment is the same. Employers can be based anywhere, but wherever they are, they will need local languages to communicate and sell their products.

For pupils to get ahead in the future, languages give them the edge over others who don't possess the same skill. You may not realise it, but language and language patterns are everywhere; coding, music notation, emojis, numbers – it's all language and communication!

It is important that pupils learn to speak and understand other people, no matter where they are from. Languages are the perfect way to meet new people, immerse themselves in new cultures and make a difference to who they are. Learning a foreign language can help pupils understand their own language. The business world needs confident communicators!

Research has shown that speaking more than one language increases brain capacity and helps people to develop their memory skills. It's an impressive achievement to speak a foreign language which friends and family will envy, and employers will love!

Skills in a foreign language are useful for all sorts of careers, not just teaching and translation. Previous GCSE linguists now work in media, environmental consultation, medicine, engineering, business, and sales, as well as having the opportunity to work anywhere in the world where French and Spanish are spoken.

Furthermore, the top universities recognise that a modern foreign language is a rigorous academic discipline and an MFL is highly regarded. As mentioned, we are excited to announce that we are also exploring the option of a French and Spanish KS4 trip, with more details to follow soon.

“Young people from the UK are at a disadvantage in the recruitment market. The UK workforce suffers from a chronic shortage of people at all levels with usable language skills. Companies increasingly need personnel with technical or professional skills plus another language.” Source: Nuffield languages enquiry.

If pupils can:

- Understand main points and views of others
 - Communicate the main points of their own message
 - Take part in simple transactions and conversations
 - Express personal opinions about a variety of topics using past, present, and future tenses...
- ...then they will succeed in French and Spanish!

For further information, please contact Miss Távora.