



Curriculum Intent for Modern Foreign Languages at St Joseph's College

We aim to create the very best linguists. We challenge students to think, speak, act and write like excellent learners of French and Spanish at all levels of study. We do this by equipping all our students with the knowledge and skills to succeed in language learning, encouraging and inspiring them with quality first teaching, broadening their awareness of other countries, cultures and communities so that they may consider themselves "World Citizens" who belong in a multicultural, mutually respectful world. By the time they leave St. Joseph's, we want our young people to have developed a love of languages, strong life-long linguistic skills, a linguistic curiosity and an intrinsic motivation to explore and respect other cultures and communities, thus equipping them with the skills to deepen their language knowledge and undertake employment in an increasingly globalised economy.

As a knowledge engaged curriculum, we believe that knowledge underpins and enables the application of skills. As a department, we define the powerful knowledge our students need and help them to recall it by having a carefully planned progression with content and skills clearly identified in our medium to long-term plans. Our lessons revisit and build on existing knowledge. We are clear from the outset about our intent to teach grammatical structures, syntax and vocabulary; using the correct terminology and making explicit links to English and other foreign languages' systematization. We emphasize the importance of recycling language within a lesson, a sequence of lessons and across the years to fully embed skills and vocabulary acquisition.

Our curriculum goes beyond what is taught in lessons, for whilst we want students to achieve the best possible examination results, we believe that we also build the Cultural Capital of our students by embedding their linguistic skills within a framework which goes beyond their own cultural experiences. Language is recycled, revisited and recalled. Modelling encourages our students to communicate and authentic resources are employed to offer immediacy and authenticity to modern language learning. Youtube, songs, music, film clips, texts and listening resources are all commonplace in the MFL classroom as well as regular assessments and "low stakes" retrieval practice.