



MODERN LANGUAGES GCSE

OCR Specifications: **1525(French)**
 1526(German)
 1528 (Spanish)

The Modern Languages Department offers courses in French, German and Spanish. In each language the GCSE syllabus comprises 5 broad 'contexts', each divided into a number of topics covering aspects of everyday life.

Teaching is conducted as far as possible in the foreign language with a view to promoting fluency. Comprehension of the spoken and written word is tested at GCSE through questions in the target language and, sometimes, in English.

When pupils cover a topic, they do a series of exercises designed to develop their understanding of the foreign language and to offer them opportunities to produce it in oral and written form. They learn to request and to give information and opinions relevant to the topic. Exercises and homeworks also test the acquisition of vocabulary and important grammatical constructions which enable pupils to express themselves precisely.

By the end of Year 11 they will have built up a comprehensive file of material for the GCSE examination. They take an end-of-year examination in Year 10 and GCSE trial papers in January of the GCSE year. At GCSE, pupils take papers designed to test their ability in listening, reading, speaking and writing within the contexts of the syllabus. As a rule, our pupils attempt the higher tier, designed for the ablest candidates, in each of the four language skills.

The Department aims to provide the ablest pupils with an appropriate challenge by taking them beyond the demands of the GCSE syllabus towards more advanced work.