

A LEVEL MODERN LANGUAGES

Exam Board: Pearson (Edexcel)

Syllabus Codes:	French	9FR0
	German	9GN0
	Spanish	9SP0
	Chinese	9CN0

Entry Requirement

To succeed at this level in a modern language, students should at least be of IGCSE grade 6 standard. The transition between IGCSE and Sixth Form will be smoother for those students who achieved a grade 7 and above.

Introduction

The course encourages maximum use of the foreign language. Lessons are normally conducted in the foreign tongue. The course is designed to enable you to develop and build on the skills acquired at IGCSE and to provide a much deeper insight into another culture and society. Choosing to study a language at this level, you will achieve a practical language skill in a variety of contexts and registers. At the same time, the course will offer an intellectual challenge: we develop the skills of analysing and expressing ideas and arguments coherently and accurately in essays and projects.

There is an expectation that students choosing to study a language will take part in a visit abroad during the course of their study. This will help you experience the culture, and life of the country, and practise the language in an authentic situation. These visits will either take the form of exchanges or cultural/study tours. In addition, all students have a weekly conversation lesson with the native language assistant to boost their confidence in speaking.

Studying a language at A Level will provide our students with a sound basis for further study and enhance their employment prospects. Beyond the language competency, you acquire

transferable skills such as autonomy, resourcefulness, creativity, critical thinking, and linguistic, cultural and cognitive flexibility. The skills you pick up will open doors to further study and work opportunities. Language skills are highly sought after both by universities and employers and are a great asset in fields ranging from Arts to Law, from Business to Science, from History to Engineering. After the course, you might find yourself using foreign language sources for your university essays, giving presentations to international business partners or impressing friends with your intercultural knowledge and language skills on your travels. Previous students have studied abroad or gone on to take up language studies, international law and business degrees.

Syllabus Content & Assessment:

The stimulating and varied course covers many societal topics from an international perspective, ranging from contemporary social issues to technology, from political and historical aspects of the countries to its artistic output. The course also encourages boys to appreciate and analyse literary works and films and we are happy to take into account boys' preferences when choosing these. Suitable works available on Edexcel's website.

The skills boys develop will enable them to use the language spontaneously in a wide range of situations, to hold conversations and construct well-reasoned arguments in speaking and writing. The boys will carry out independent research into an interesting aspect of the language's home countries. This is the mainstay of the oral exam. Translations from English into the language studied and from the language into English also feature in the exam.

Assessment

All assessment is exam-based:

- Listening, reading & translation (40%)
- Writing (30%)
- Oral (30%)