

French / Spanish

Exam Board: AQA
Course Code: 8652 / 8692

Modern Foreign Languages course overview

A language GCSE will open many doors. Speaking another language is a skill that many employers value and four of the UK's biggest trade partners are Francophone or Spanish-Speaking. Employers value the skills learnt by language students: comprehension, communication, improved memory, problem solving, confidence, and an understanding of other cultures.

The French language has approximately 80 million native speakers, as well as 190 million secondary speakers, meaning that around 270 million people speak the language worldwide. French is the official language in 29 countries, including international organisations such as the UN, EU, Interpol, African Union, NATO.

Spanish is the second most spoken language by native speakers in the world, with more than 400 million Spanish speakers in 21 countries. Spanish has emerged as the most important language for the UK in an analysis made by the British Council.

How is the course assessed?

- Through listening, speaking, reading and writing, including translation.
- You will have the opportunity to learn about the following themes and how they relate to Francophone and Spanish-Speaking cultures. The themes cover many different topics, so there is something to interest everyone!

Identity & Culture	Local, National & International and Global Areas of Interest	Work & Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships • Advantages and disadvantages of marriage • Technology • Customs and festivals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment • Social issues: healthy living • Social issues: Charity work and homelessness • Home, town and region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life at school • Further education, work and future plans

Is this course for you?

You have been studying a language for 3 years and are in an excellent position to continue to GCSE especially if:

- You have been enjoying your French / Spanish lessons
- You enjoy learning about other cultures

You enjoy studying a variety of different topics and discussing your opinions

- You are keen to develop the following: being a successful independent learner, curiosity with different cultures, improve your thinking skills, increase your confidence.

You enjoy travelling or would like to travel more in the future

- You enjoy communicating with people

You are self-motivated and prepared to extend your learning beyond the classroom.

Please note, the course is for French or Spanish as a foreign language and is not suitably challenging for native speakers. Native speakers may take the GCSE as an additional exam.

What could this course lead to?

The course provides an excellent progression route into A-level French or Spanish. Looking to further education, at university, you can study combined courses and some of our former students have gone on to study: French combined with Law and Spanish and Business.

The skills you will have gained are applicable to many areas of future study. You will have debated environmental issues, discussed how to improve your school, written reviews of film, and evaluated the importance of charity work. You will develop your resilience in dealing with unfamiliar language and your confidence in speaking and writing in a foreign language, and you will be taught a variety of effective revision strategies that will help you with your revision in all subjects.

Who can I contact for further advice or support?

Mrs G Cousin, Acting Head of Department, gcousin@tcolc.aspirelp.uk
Or, speak to your French / Spanish teacher.

FRENCH

WHERE IS IT SPOKEN?

