

Modern Foreign Languages Curriculum Statement

The Modern Foreign Languages Department at Wykham Park Academy seeks to promote a deeper understanding of the international world by developing communication skills and the application of new language structures to different contexts. Students learn how to manipulate new language successfully so they can communicate clearly verbally and in written form. They also learn how to develop collaborative learning skills so they can support each other with the understanding and application of new concepts. Students are encouraged to use resources such as vocabulary lists and grammatical explanations to work independently. They are also provided with clear criteria that enable them to understand their learning and the progress they are making. Access to authentic sources helps students to better understand the culture of the countries where the language is spoken and encourages curiosity and engagement. As students approach each new topic there is an opportunity for them to develop their reading comprehension skills using academic and literary texts to endorse the school ethos of 'Every child a reader'. These sessions also provide a springboard for discussions on how we embrace diversity, which is explored at various stages throughout the course.

Key Stage 3

At Wykham Park Academy students in Year 7 develop a deeper understanding of different concepts through the Applied Transdisciplinary Learning programme. By developing skills that help them to become more independent, self-regulatory and resilient learners, students are improving their ability to develop the specific thinking skills required for language learning. In Year 7 they develop strategies for memorising vocabulary, pronouncing new sounds, speaking with increasing confidence, understanding short written texts and writing clear sentences using a range of new language structures.

In Year 8 students develop their ability to manipulate the language as they start to speak with a degree of spontaneity and write more extended answers to GCSE-style questions. They develop new strategies for understanding more complex texts and selecting relevant information when listening to audio material. Students in Year 9 further develop their independent learning skills by doing GCSE-style tasks for home learning. Students are given further exposure to authentic sources and are now expected to manipulate some of the language in the sources to support the development of their independent written work.

Key Stage 4

The Curriculum Design enables students to:

1. Develop their listening skills and their ability to deal with the full range of question types.
2. Develop their speaking skills so they can talk about a photo and the topic associated with the photo, perform roles plays on a variety of topics and answer questions on a variety of topics using a range of tenses and language structures.

3. Develop their reading skills so they can identify key details and answer questions in the target language.
4. Develop their writing skills so they can interpret different question types and plan and write a clear answer.
5. Develop their translation skills so that students can translate clearly into English and into the target language.