



Information about the Languages Department

Philosophy

Bishop Vesey's Grammar School is a six form entry boys' grammar school converter academy situated in a pleasant environment of North East Birmingham, close to Sutton Park. Boys are selected for admission to the school on the basis of grammar school tests adopted by the Grammar Schools of Birmingham Consortium. The school has a large co-educational Sixth Form of 419 students.

We seek an ECT or an experienced Teacher to join our ambitious and forward-looking school who has the ability to teach French up to A' level and Spanish at KS3. At present the teaching is expected to be 70% French and 30% Spanish, this can however change in future years depending on staff changes and the requirements of the timetable.

Candidates for teaching posts at the school are expected to show a willingness to participate in the extra-curricular activities we offer students.

Teaching and Learning

The Languages department is a dynamic department which places innovation in teaching and learning at the core of their practice. They have a very strong reputation within and outside of the school, supported by excellent records of exam success.

Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4

At Key Stage 3, students are presently taught French, Spanish and Mandarin in Year 7. Thirty students are selected for the Mandarin Excellence Programme and will continue with Mandarin beyond a taster course in the first term. In Year 8, pupils study French and Spanish. Those on the MEP study either French or Spanish alongside Mandarin. These choices continue through Year 8 to Year 9. All Key Stage 4 students will study at least one Modern Foreign Language to GCSE Level.

Key Stage 5

Every year we offer A Level French and A Level Spanish, HSK4 Mandarin and A Level Mandarin.

French and Spanish Key Stage 4/5 and exam results:

All classes are taught by subject specialists.

The GCSE French classes have between 23-30 students per class who follow the Edexcel specification.

The GCSE Spanish classes have between 25-30 students per class who follow the Edexcel specification.

In Sixth Form class sizes for French range from 14-20 students who follow the AQA specification.

In Sixth Form class sizes for Spanish range from 12-15 students who follow the AQA specification.

The department has an excellent record of exam success at both GCSE and A' level.

Other information

All classrooms in the Languages Department are equipped with an interactive white board. Lessons are interactive and make use of the target language as much as possible. There is access to computer suites and surface tablets which are used for presentations and online resources. Assessments take place half termly.

There are currently 8 Languages Teachers, including the Head of French, Head of Spanish and Head of Mandarin. It is a very supportive, lively department and staff are full of passion and enthusiasm about teaching their subject.

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