

MFL Curriculum Intent 2025-26

Learning another language contributes to mutual understanding, a sense of global citizenship and personal fulfilment. Languages are part of the cultural richness of our society and the world in which we live and work. The ability to understand and communicate in another language is a lifelong skill for education, employment and leisure in this country and throughout the world.

The Albion Academy's Modern Foreign Languages department aims to provide a highly engaging and challenging curriculum, which allows all language learners to develop the skills and confidence to see themselves as 'World Citizens' who belong in a multicultural, mutually respectful society. Considering the diverse context in which we work at The Albion, with over 60 different languages spoken in our school, promoting language learning is at the heart of our mission.

Our both challenging and ambitious curriculum is built and sequenced through a wide range of topics that takes pupils on a journey, enabling them to first talk about themselves and their lives before moving onto wider topics within the community and the wider world. Whilst all of the topics studied throughout the year groups contribute to the five key themes at GCSE, we have purposefully developed and sequenced this curriculum so that by the end of KS3, our pupils have acquired an excellent foundation in Spanish and are learning with a degree of independence. Pupils will also have developed a wider, more in-depth understanding and appreciation of other cultures and the world around them.

Our curriculum is also designed and sequenced in such a way that pupils will have a systematic knowledge of the three pillars of language learning: phonics, vocabulary and grammar. These key components feature consistently throughout the wide range of topics which build throughout the year groups, ultimately enabling and encouraging our pupils to become more spontaneous linguists who share our love of languages. In addition to this, explicit teaching of phonics, vocabulary and grammar supports our learners in significantly improving their literacy skills both in their home language and the target language. Furthermore, for students that decide to continue with a language, the foundations built in KS3 will undoubtedly aid them in being able to access the KS4 curriculum in their chosen language and achieve the highest levels in the GCSE examinations.

The Modern Foreign Languages department will:

- aim to inspire all MFL staff/peers through effective collaboration, support and modelling exceptional practice – regardless of the stage of career journey.
- review and amend the SoW regularly to ensure that both teaching and learning is ambitious, relevant and challenging to support all learners to achieve their potential.
- adopt highly effective classroom methods based on effective peer observations and educational research, such as Rosenshine's Principals of Instruction, to deliver the curriculum to the highest standard.
- set and maintain high expectations in the classroom that challenge all learners.
- present students with opportunities to master the four skills of speaking, reading, listening and writing, enabling them to become proficient speakers of languages.
- give students the knowledge, understanding and skills to progress onto the next stage of their education or employment journey.
- challenge the view that learning a language is not important or necessary by providing students with engaging enrichment opportunities to use their language skills and bring the language to life such as; extra-curricular clubs, trips abroad, and trips to the cinema, local universities, restaurants.
- Celebrate and promote diversity by celebrating European Day of Languages across the school and through the use of classroom and corridor display boards.
- support EAL students to gain a GCSE in their home language where their language is offered by the relevant exam boards.