

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Faculty

Studying a language is a vital skill for a huge variety of careers today, and therefore has always been in Bishop Stopford's core curriculum at key stages 3 and 4. The MFL Faculty is a thriving and successful place to be, where students are always encouraged to try something new and push themselves outside of their comfort zone. The faculty comprises a diverse and highly-skilled group of linguists, with a mix of international backgrounds and teaching experiences. We are fortunate enough to have native speakers within the department, as well as staff with considerable teaching experience from all over the world. What brings our staff together is a passion for teaching and learning languages, and a strong commitment to the progress and wellbeing of our students. As a faculty, students and teachers learn both culturally and linguistically every day from each other. All members of the team are able to offer at least two of the languages studied here, (French, German and Spanish), and at least one to A level standard.

We believe that the Faculty should always be an academically stimulating environment; however, we recognise that not all students learn in the same way. Therefore, students experience a wide range of activities in their language lessons ranging from study of grammar and vocabulary, to creative use of ICT and developing cultural knowledge, and this allows us to develop well-rounded, independent and curious learners. This rigorous, all-round approach has been highly successful and our external examination results, both at GCSE and at A level, have been consistently high. Our A-level classes are academically motivating and several students in recent years have gained places at Oxbridge to read languages.

Extra-curricular opportunities are very much part of what we do here. There is an annual International Day, combining language awareness and world trade, where Year 8 learn more about how language learning can benefit business and enterprise projects. We also organise visiting French, German and Spanish theatre groups and sixth form trips to Berlin and Geneva. We always welcome new ideas from staff who would like to get involved and develop existing activities, or indeed, their own.

The languages faculty is well resourced with book-based and online resources, as well as a class set of iPads exclusively for faculty use, as ICT in lessons is very much encouraged. We are continuing to work together in teaching teams, to develop new resources and schemes of work for the new GCSE and A level specification,

For you and your career development, this is a supportive and unique place to be. The positive atmosphere amongst both staff and students will allow you to develop and refine your classroom practice to the highest levels. You will be supported in the development of your career, both in and out the classroom, by both the faculty and wider school.



Vital Statistics

Faculty Members

4 full time and 3 part-time staff and a part-time admin assistant.

Facilities

7 specialist classrooms, each with projectors and a Faculty staff workroom. There is a class set of iPads exclusively for Faculty use.

GCSE

We follow the AQA French, German and Spanish specifications. All students study a language at GCSE, unless they are withdrawn from MFL to pursue an alternative curriculum. There is a dual-linguist group at GCSE. Results have been consistently very good with results in 2018 of 73% 9-4 French, 73% 9-4 German and 88% 9-4 Spanish (Dual Linguists)

A Level

We follow the AQA French, German and Spanish specifications, which provide great continuity from GCSE. Historically our results have always been very good, achieving 100% of grade A*-C across all 3 languages.

Enrichment

Year 8 International Day, Flying Theatre group visits, Key Stage 5 trips to Geneva and Berlin.