



MEONCROSS SCHOOL

An Introduction to the Languages Department

Our key aims in the Language Department are to teach linguistic excellence and to enthuse our pupils. We also encourage a celebration of cultural differences. We achieve these aims by enabling our pupils to understand and use a foreign language for practical communication in listening, speaking, reading and writing. We provide positive, challenging and enjoyable learning experiences, via a wide range of resources, which often encourage our pupils to continue their study of a language for leisure or work purposes. Many of our pupils have gone on to study a language to A level and degree level.

Pupils begin their French lessons in the Nursery and continue with one lesson per week until they finish Year 6. Pupils also spend a term and a half learning German and Spanish in Year 6 alongside their French studies. In Years 7-9 pupils pursue their French studies and also have one term of German study and one term of Spanish study in Year 7, before making their second language choice. They learn to communicate in the target language and we encourage them to use their language skills in the classroom with their teacher and peers, as well as outside of the classroom. Pupils usually study at least one of their languages to GCSE level, with many opting to study their second language to GCSE level too. In Years 10 -11 they explore topics in greater depth and refine their linguistic competence in preparation for their GCSE examination.

We regularly achieve 100% A*-C pass rate in at least one, if not all, of our 3 languages. We are a forward thinking department and keen to embrace new ideas and challenges.

Beyond the classroom, we support children's learning with spelling Bee competitions and enrichment opportunities such as the Language Leaders Award. Extracurricular provision is very important to us and we are always looking at introducing new clubs to capture the imagination of our pupils and to further promote a love of languages. In the past we have run trips to the Camargue, the Black Forest, the Rhineland, Mexico and Seville and we are eager to continue to provide exciting opportunities for our pupils.

The Languages Department is one of the core departments at Meoncross. We are a committed, supportive and enthusiastic team with high aspirations.

Lauren Kimble
Head of Department