



BRUTON SCHOOL

FOR GIRLS

ON SUNNY HILL

MODERN LANGUAGES FRENCH GERMAN SPANISH

Mrs X Harvey

General introduction

With few exceptions, all girls study at least one modern foreign language up to GCSE and some will wish to take two (French plus another). Pupils may continue with any of the modern languages they are currently studying. It is not possible to commence a new language.

The Department has a staff of four, one of whom is a French native speaker, plus native language assistants with whom each pupil has an individual practice session each week.

Course specification

Edexcel GCSE – Higher Tier (French, German, Spanish) or Foundation Tier (French)

Summary of course content

Key features of the course are a meaningful and enjoyable educational experience with challenging and achievable goals. All candidates should achieve a useful level of competence in their chosen language(s), thus building a solid basis for a culture of lifelong language learning. We aim to develop the following skills: a) an aural and written understanding of the language in a variety of contexts; b) knowledge of vocabulary and grammar; c) language learning skills; d) translation skills; e) the ability to communicate effectively and spontaneously in the language; f) an awareness and understanding of countries where the language is spoken. Up-to-date and stimulating materials are used, to include a range of level-appropriate authentic and literary resources. There are three core themes which are studied alongside grammar and language skills: *Identity & Culture; Local, National, International & Global Areas of Interest; Current & Future Study & Employment.*



Patrons: Mrs A Maw, Lord-Lieutenant of Somerset and Lady Gass DCVO

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How the course is assessed

The Modern Languages GCSE is a linear multi-skill examination with all four skills being assessed separately and externally, and each making up 25% of the overall result. Students attempt either Foundation or Higher level in all skills.

Comprehension is tested by the Listening and Reading papers, whilst expression is tested by a Speaking examination conducted by the class teacher and encompassing a role-play, photo card discussion and general conversation. Writing encompasses both structured and open-ended tasks, including a translation.