



MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Extra Curricular

We consider visits abroad to be an important part of what we offer our students. In the past, visits abroad have been organised to Germany, France and Spain aimed at Year 7 and 8 students. Going forward, we would like to involve GCSE students who have acquired a higher level of competence in speaking and understanding the language. Visits not only give students the opportunity to practise their skills but also to immerse themselves in the culture of the target language country.

Open evenings and information evenings are opportunities for students to get involved. Older students may be asked to talk to groups of parents about why about why they chose to study a language and what GCSE lessons are like. They also serve speciality foods as French waiters, communicating with visitors in French. Younger students perform songs or puppet theatre. Some organise a children's Euro quiz.

To complement the whole school target of improving levels of literacy, we give our students the chance to read about relevant and topical themes in the target language. We use Mary Glasgow magazines, which are produced specifically to appeal to teenage readers and develop skills in young language learners. The magazines are regularly distributed in the atrium and the library.

Every year, we organise a competition for our Year 7 students. They are required to create a poster, which promotes language learning. This entails research into the benefits of speaking more than one language and finding out more about careers where knowledge of a foreign language is either essential or desirable. This has helped to motivate students who find language learning difficult.

From time to time, we hold special events. In key stage 3, we have organised French breakfasts and performances from touring theatre companies. Key stage 4 students have hosted a class from a German school. We have also set up email links with students in schools in target language countries and run lunchtime languages clubs.