Spanish





'Learning another language not only has cognitive and academic benefits, it also supports a greater sense of openness to and appreciation for other cultures.'

In the Spanish department, we aim not only to teach our students language skills, but also to help students to better understand the Spanish-speaking world. The Hispanic world is a rich combination of music styles, literary genres, cuisines, cinema and so much more. The benefits to our students of greater cultural and linguistic awareness cannot be underestimated; with many studies proving that learning languages has a positive and beneficial effect on mental health and indeed on long-term physical brain health. We hope that all our students will: improve their communication skills in both English and Spanish, gain an understanding of other cultures, boost their creativity and curiosity, and most importantly, enjoy language learning!

What is studied at KS3

KS3 builds upon skills each year. We use the Mira textbooks in Years 7 & 8 and selected chapters of the AQA GCSE Foundation course book in Year 9, which provide scaffolding in order to help students develop their language skills and we have a number of cultural lessons and projects throughout the 3 years to introduce different areas of Hispanic culture and heritage.

Year 7 Mira 1 textbook

Topics:

Introducing yourself, talking about school life in the UK and Spain, talking about your family, where you live (home, town, country), freetime and hobbies and future plans.

Grammar:

Use of regular and irregular verbs in the present tense with varied pronouns, adjective agreements, basic connectives asking questions and question words, opinions and the immediate future tense.

Year 8 Mira 2 textbook

Topics:

Talking about friends, arranging to go out, daily routine, past and future holidays, food, clothes and visiting Barcelona and asking for directions.

Widening use of connectives, development of opinions and justification, sequencers, modal verbs, the preterite (past tense-one off completed actions) tense (all verb groups), comparatives and superlatives.

Year 9 AQA GCSE textbook

Topics:

Revision of the basics covered in Years 7 & 8, music, cinema, TV, eating out, sport, my life at school and college, holidays, weather, travel and regions of Spain.

Grammar:

Nouns, articles, regular present tense and key irregular verbs, numbers, ages, time, dates (revision). Opinions, pronouns with con and para, further irregular verb practice, introduction of the imperfect and perfect tenses, prepositions, verbs followed by infinitives, adverbs of place, sequencers and compass points.

What is studied at KS4

AQA GCSE Spanish Course

The course builds skills across a variety of areas: reading, learning vocabulary, writing, translation skills, building grammar knowledge, listening, dealing with authentic texts and speaking.

For content, 3 main themes covered across the two years (Year 10 starters September 2019) or three years (Year 9 starters September 2019), each of which contain smaller units:

- 1. Identity and culture U1 Me, my family and friendships, U2 Technology in everyday life, U3 Free-time activities, U4 Customs and festivals
- **2. Local, national, international and global areas of interest** U5 Home, town, neighbourhood and region, U6 Social issues, U7 Global issues, U8 Travel and tourism
- **3. Current and future study and employment –** U9 My studies, U10 Life at school and college, U11 Education post-16, U12 Jobs, career choices and ambitions

Speaking, writing (including translation skills), reading and listening are all examined at the end of the course in Year 11 and are worth 25% each of the final grade. All 4 skills are covered within the individual topics, along with grammar which is regularly revisited and embedded into the teaching of content.

What is studied at KS5

AQA A Level Spanish course

4 themes are covered across the two year course, each of which looks at areas of interest within the Spanish-speaking world. A film and piece of literature are also studied, along with the Independent Research Project, which forms the main part of the A Level speaking exam. Listening, Reading, Writing (including translation skills) and Speaking are all examined at the end of the two-year course.

Aspects of Hispanic society: Los valores tradicionales y modernos, El ciberespacio y La igualdad de los sexos.

Art in the Hispanic world: La influencia de los ídolos, La identidad regional en España y El patrimonio cultural.

Multiculturalism in Hispanic society: La inmigración, El racismo y La convivencia.

Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world : Jóvenes de hoy, ciudadanos del mañana, Manarquías y dictaduras y Los movimientos populares.