

The Curriculum:



At Nuast, we offer GCSE courses in French and Spanish and are following the new Edexcel GCSE specification.

Lessons are delivered using a wide variety of teaching methods, including role play, mime, games, flashcards and electronically produced materials. The target language is also used regularly to give instructions and to communicate in the classroom.

Expectations:

Parents can help by:

- Helping your son/daughter to find the best way to learn vocabulary and phrases by heart.
- Checking that homework is being completed to the best of your child's ability and handed in on time.
- Encouraging pupils to seek help with problems prior to their next languages lesson.

Pupils can help themselves by:

- Always having the right equipment for lessons
- Listening carefully to their teacher and to others
- Always completing their homework, and using private study periods wisely
- Learning vocabulary on a regular basis
- Checking their work carefully for spelling and grammar
- Asking for help BEFORE the homework is due in

GCSE Homework:

Each pupil is issued with a homework schedule at the beginning of each year. This indicates what vocabulary needs to be learnt. In addition, pupils are expected to complete written work set by individual teachers as well as to complete weekly reading and listening exercises to improve their skills further.

MFL COURSE CONTENT

Students can opt to follow either French or Spanish at GCSE level. We follow the Edexcel language course and students are assessed in all four skills.

Each skill is weighted differently. Reading and Listening skills are assessed by a terminal exam, each worth 20%. Speaking and Writing skills are assessed throughout the course and together are worth 60% of the final grade.

For the speaking controlled assessment, pupils carry out three activities, for example a short presentation on something that interests them or a discussion about a photo or picture of their choice.

For the writing controlled assessment, pupils carry out three pieces of writing, for example an article for a magazine, a web page, a blog, or a letter.

Each piece of controlled assessment is worth 15% and the Academy submits 2 pieces for each skill.

For all four skills, we study a range of topics including:

- Media and culture
- Sport and leisure
- Travel and tourism
- Business, work and employment
- Out and about
- Customer service and transactions
- Personal information
- Future plans, education and work

We also carry out projects within our busy schedule to ensure that pupils continue to learn about cultural aspects of France. For example, pupils learn about French accents and customs in the North of France through watching "Bienvenue Chez les Ch'tis" and they learn more about the Spanish culture through watching for example "Manolito Gafotas" a film about a young boy and his family who live in Madrid.