



SOLIHULL

The Modern Foreign Languages Department

One of the country's leading MFL Departments; we are a large, successful and growing department in the leading co-educational school in the Midlands. Solihull is the host school for the National Festival of Languages. We offer nine MFL trips each year, including three full exchanges as well as international work experience opportunities.

Come and join us and make your mark on foreign language education in Great Britain.

The Department is one of the largest in the School and is staffed by thirteen colleagues, including teachers and language assistants. A choice of either French or Spanish is offered in Year 7 and German as a second foreign language is currently the most popular option subject for Year 8. Accelerated French or Spanish are then offered in Year 9 such that it is possible to have triple linguists.

All pupils study at least one of French, German or Spanish to GCSE; many pupils choose to take study two languages and a small number study three to GCSE level. This is also an option at A Level.

At A Level we use the AQA examination board and at GCSE AQA is also used in all three languages. In all three of our core languages, we have a subscription to Kerboodle's suite of paper-based and electronic resources, but we do also make extensive and creative use of a whole series of other teaching tools and are always keen to make use of the most up to date pedagogical techniques.

The Department encourages visits and exchanges. In Spanish, Year 9 pupils have the opportunity to take part in our Spanish Exchange programme with our partner school near to Valencia. Older students also have the chance to go to Spain on a study visit to Andalucía. In addition, students of Spanish host visiting pupils from Argentina and can visit this country in each summer. The Department also facilitates opportunities to take part in gap experiences for senior pupils.

In French, there is a trip to a chateau in northern France for all pupils in Year 8, an exchange with Bourg-en-Bresse for Year 10 and a Sixth Form study visit to Paris. In German, there is an exchange for Year 9 and 10 to Hofheim (Main-Taunus Kreis) and also a trip to Berlin, a day spent at the Goethe-Institut in London and for Year 8, there is a weekend trip to Cologne.

We host plays acted in our three languages, host a major event in celebration of European Day of Languages and look for different ways to penetrate all areas of school life, including elements of CLILL techniques are other cross-curricular work. Our Solihull Young Linguists group also participate in the UKLO Linguistics Olympiad, and our Year 6,7 and 9 pupils have recently been very successful in the various National MFL Spelling and Translation Bee competitions organised by Routes into languages.

In 2025, we hosted the National Festival of Languages in collaboration with the universities of Oxford, Cambridge, Birmingham, Warwick and UCL. We welcomed over 400 guests and plans are well underway for an even bigger and better iteration in 2027.