

Subject Modern Foreign Languages

"One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way." - **Frank Smith**

Curriculum Intent

We believe that studying foreign languages teaches young people to see the world from alternative perspectives, broadening their horizons and freeing them from insularity. It encourages them to explore, analyse and understand other cultures, countries, and communities and to become open-minded, tolerant, and outward looking citizens of the modern world. Through the acquisition of the knowledge and skills involved in learning another language our young people become confident communicators in a global community, connecting them with the past, the present and their future.

Powerful knowledge in MFL

Modern languages allow students to view their world from a different viewpoint. It enables them to embrace the fact the world is a rich and diverse place filled with different customs, landscapes, perspectives, history, arts, literature and ways of communicating.

It lets students understand the codes which exist behind languages and how these might interplay or be at odds with English. They will be able to recognise that rules and patterns exist throughout languages and that these may well be influenced by culture. Students can start to build a more powerful understanding of their own language through how we put together words, sentences and text.

Important transferable skills such as organisation, self-discipline, problem solving, good listening and strong communication are developed through language learning.

Curriculum Features

Our curriculum in French is designed to ensure that all students can make excellent progress, regardless of their prior language learning. Topics cover a range of life situations and thoroughly prepare students for the GCSE course and life beyond Breckland School.

The curriculum is designed to ensure that all four skills (Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing) are covered in every unit and key skills are built into students' learning journeys and are regularly revisited. Students start building sentences and speaking the language straight away. Grammar is taught implicitly and explicitly, building on and extending their knowledge from English lessons. Learning grammar enables students to understand how language fits together, producing more accurate language and making our learners more confident and fluent. Topics and grammar skills are regularly revisited; emphasis is on equipping students with the linguistic skills to unpick and decode unfamiliar language.



The MFL faculty has high expectations, and all students are supported to be the best language learner they can be. We use a range of strategies such as pair work, role-play and sentence builder work to ensure that every lesson counts. Learning in the classroom is enhanced through home learning, which is set every two weeks, and consists of vocabulary learning, reading and listening tasks, exam practice, and quizzes.

Students are taught to be resilient language learners; within the MFL classroom, we consistently emphasise that it is ok to make mistakes. We believe where students learn is in deciding how they move on from these errors. This open environment allows students to grow in confidence and not feel intimidated in speaking out in front of the class. Opportunities for reflection are built in at regular intervals, and the curriculum is designed to build students' independence.

It is one of our faculty aims to expose students to authentic language use in real and practical situations through the classroom teacher and the use of literature, film and song to emphasise the value of language as a communication tool and motivate our students.

MFL at Breckland School introduces lifelong language learning, equipping students to go on to further education and employment. Echoing the Breckland School ethos and in the ever-changing face of the MFL learning landscape, we instil a positive work ethic that supports students well throughout their lives. Our students are encouraged to be reflective, resourceful and resilient individuals, with high self-esteem and the desire to fulfil their aspirations. Broadening our students' horizons breeds tolerance, empathy, adaptability and consideration for others within our local and wider communities.

Curriculum Enrichment

- German club
- International film club
- French conversation practice