

Spanish

Why choose Spanish?

As at GCSE Spanish is offered at Sixth Form level and follows largely the same pattern. Because of the continuous nature of the subject students tend to build on the knowledge they acquired at GCSE and develop their language skills to a much higher level. By the end of the course students are usually able to communicate in a foreign language to a level they could hardly imagine when they were doing GCSE.

The value of a qualification in languages in terms of employment can never be underestimated and obviously this is a major reason why students choose them. However, the actual studying itself can be very rewarding as students see their skills improve and develop as the course progresses. Most students actually come to enjoy the work they are doing. Languages also seem to fit in with virtually every other subject combination.

What can I expect to learn?

Most students will be a little concerned about how difficult it sounds and almost everyone finds the transition from GCSE to A level hard. However, it must be remembered that this is what you are aiming for at the end of the two years and you shouldn't expect to be able to do it all in the first month. The purpose of a language is to communicate and to do so effectively at A level takes some time. Don't despair if you make lots of mistakes at first – everyone does. Because of the nature of the exam most of the work done in class is topic based with discussion and language work revolving around a certain theme or issue of general interest. Much of the work given is preparation and the amount a student gets from the course (and obviously their A level grade) depends on the amount of time spent on this preparation.

You will follow the AQA syllabus and cover a variety of topics such as:

- Modern and traditional values
- Cyberspace
- Equal rights
- Modern day idols
- Spanish regional identity
- Immigration
- Racism
- Integration
- Today's youth
- Monarchies, Republics and dictatorships
- Popular movements

Where can this course lead?

There have been many students who have gone on to study languages at University and they are involved in a variety of professions. Some go into teaching but many use their language skills in industry or even live and work abroad. Some have studied a language with Law while others use it as part of a Business Management course. There are former language students working in television, the travel industry and in multinational corporations – the possibilities seem endless.

Entry requirements:

You should have a **grade 6** or above in GCSE Spanish.

