

LANGUAGES

Our intention in our Languages curriculum is to enthuse our language learners with a curriculum, which is engaging, challenging and relevant and which will inspire them to have a more global outlook on life and to be open to new cultures and experiences. We endeavour to foster a love of language learning through enthusiastic, quality teaching, enabling students to develop the four skills of language learning both inside and outside of the classroom.

Through the study of Languages at Lytham St Annes High School, we intend for all students to:

- Develop their enthusiasm for language learning
- Be able to communicate confidently in the real world
- Have an excellent foundation of grammatical knowledge
- Develop the four skills of language learning: listening, reading, speaking, and writing
- Be able to translate accurately
- Be able to understand a variety of written and spoken texts

We study languages because we want our students to see mastering a language as a life skill, which will enhance their employability in the future rather than just seeing it as a school subject. We aim to provide students with a variety of linguistic structures that will allow them to communicate confidently in the real world and ensure that they have an excellent foundation of grammatical knowledge. We have planned our curriculum to ensure that students have regular opportunities to retrieve prior knowledge and to build upon previously learnt language and structures.

VISION AND PURPOSE

The key principles that underpin our curriculum are the teaching of the building blocks of lexicogrammar, i.e. single words, lexical chunks and sentence patterns, moving from a presentational phase gradually towards spontaneous production. Rooted in cognitive theories of language acquisition and the view that classroom learning is primarily about building communicative competence, it provides a structured approach to short, medium, and long-term planning.

The skills and knowledge we develop are largely focused on the four skills that make up language learning: listening, reading, speaking, and writing. Through the EPI approach to language acquisition we focus on sounds and chunking of language through modelling, awareness raising, receptive processing, structured production in order that students can then expand their knowledge and use of language, become autonomous and by the end of their five years of study are able to spontaneously use the language they have learnt.