

MFL	
Intent	<p>The study of Modern Foreign Languages at Dene Magna intends to develop students into ‘global citizens’ who love learning languages, and are confident in expressing themselves and communicating with others in another language. We believe this is particularly significant for our students at Dene Magna, given that we are situated in the Forest of Dean, a rural area with little cultural diversity.</p> <p>We aim for students to gain an awareness of and appreciation for different cultures and beliefs both in class and through a range of extra-curricular opportunities offered by the MFL department; we hope that students are inspired to further explore this curiosity about the world and other cultures through independent study and in the future. We are all too aware of the impact of the pandemic, and therefore providing these opportunities has never been so important.</p> <p>We encourage our students to share their experiences and their love for language learning with their peers and members of the wider community.</p>
Implementation	<p>In the Modern Foreign Languages Department, we aim to give students the opportunity to continue learning and making progress in the language studied during primary school.</p> <p>We ensure a measured balance between the main elements of learning French and Spanish: reading, listening, writing, speaking, vocabulary, phonics and grammar. Lessons follow a common and concise framework. Every lesson the WALT is displayed in the target language. The WILF with three levels of challenge, as well as a choice of tasks allow students to take ownership of their own learning journey whilst ensuring consistency across the Department in all areas. Lessons include an element of retrieval practice and a variety of methods to engage students to support them to develop their love of and confidence in the language they study, and subsequently to progress. We use the acronym AVOCADOS to encourage students to use a range of key elements in their work, and this enables students to work with greater independence, and improved fluency. Student coaches are asked to observe lessons, and shape future lessons through their feedback.</p> <p>We use a variety of high-quality resources that allow us as a Department to fully submerge our young linguists with interactive learning tools. We use state of the art technology such as www.pearsonactivelearn.com and https://my.dynamic-learning.co.uk/ as well as premium subscriptions to higher level listening websites such as www.newsinslow.com for those who want to challenge their own learning boundaries. We believe that learning a language is more than just sitting in a classroom, and every resource accessed by each student takes them on a cultural and enriching journey in all Key Stages.</p>

Schemes of work are designed to be engaging and relevant to our students' lives. We have carefully selected a variety of topics to spark the interest of all students, whilst also allowing us to focus on grammar and vocabulary that will support students in progressing from novices to experts in their language learning journey. Repetition of key grammar and vocabulary, as well as use of AVOCADOS across our Schemes of Work, ensure there are opportunities for consolidation, thus avoiding cognitive overload. During Key Stage 3, one period per fortnight is dedicated to phonics or grammar.

In Key Stage 3, students are assessed on all four language skills (listening, reading, writing, speaking) throughout each of the three modules that they study each year, and either speaking, writing or reading/listening at the end of each module. They also complete an end of module vocabulary test in addition to those set throughout each module. In Key Stage 4, students are assessed on all four language skills (listening, reading, writing, speaking) throughout each of the eight modules they study across 2 years, and two of the four skills at the end of each module. They also complete an end of module vocabulary test.

We offer many culturally enriching experiences which include a Year 7 trip to Normandy, a Key Stage 4 trip to Barcelona and a Key Stage 4 trip to Paris. In Key Stage 5, we encourage students to participate in study or work experience visits in either France or Spain.

We also celebrate several cultural events throughout the year including El Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead), Chinese New Year, as well as a week of activities to highlight European Day of Languages. These events are led by our Language Ambassadors, a group of keen linguists whose role is to share their passion for languages and encourage others to adopt the same appreciation for other cultures.

In addition to the above extra-curricular activities and experiences, we regularly invite a visiting theatre to our school to perform a play in either French or Spanish with the aim of boosting our students' languages skills as well as their excitement for language learning. Year 9 students are able to attend an in-school 'Languages for Life' event, where we invite speakers from a variety of companies who use languages in their jobs, along with past students who have studied Modern Foreign Languages at University. The event aims to further develop our students' understanding of the relevance and potential benefit of learning a language in their lives.

Our school recognises that some students may need additional support developing their literacy skills, and therefore a small number of students have dedicated literacy lessons in place of Modern Foreign Language lessons. During Year 9, a small number of students follow a different route during Modern Foreign Language curriculum time, where they have an opportunity to learn Makaton, develop their skills in 'holiday' language, as well as focus on other important skills across other departments at Dene Magna.

<p>Impact</p>	<p>We hope the curriculum in Modern Foreign Languages at Dene Magna will enable students to achieve excellent academic outcomes, to communicate and express themselves confidently in French or Spanish, and to foster a life-long love for language learning.</p> <p>Students will be equipped for success through the teaching and development of transferable skills desired by apprenticeships, universities and employers. These include, but are not limited to, the ability to: communicate lucidly; problem solve; and work effectively as part of a team.</p> <p>At Key Stages 4 and 5, the number of students opting to study French or Spanish will continue to grow, as the importance of speaking more than one language is ever-increasing in modern society. As a result of their study of French or Spanish, students will leave Dene Magna as ‘global citizens’ who possess an international outlook. Students will be aware of the breadth of opportunities available to them as linguists and will be able to use their language skills in both personal and professional contexts to the benefit of the wider community.</p> <p>We truly hope that students will return to Dene Magna and share their language learning journey with younger students in the future in the hope of inspiring them to develop the same passion for languages.</p>
<p>Further links</p>	<p>Students have accounts on the following websites and they can be used to access vocabulary, reading, listening and grammar tasks related to the module they are currently studying:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com ● https://quizlet.com/en-gb <p>Other useful websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● https://lyricstraining.com/fr ● https://www.memrise.com ● https://www.duolingo.com/ ● https://www.20minutes.fr/ ● https://www.newsinslowfrench.com/