

Modern Foreign Languages Curriculum Intent

The curriculum at King Edward VI aims to provide our students with a breadth of knowledge, skills and experiences to be successful and flourish in later life. It is fully inclusive, allowing the right mixture of challenge, support and success for every child. We seek to make it engaging, interesting and enjoyable.

We also seek to develop a sense of curiosity, wonder and love of learning by asking pertinent questions across our subject areas. Our curriculum is intended to develop critical and creative thinking in our students alongside practical skills. We believe that every student should be afforded with opportunities for developing leadership and service alongside cultural capital and high-quality careers education. In addition to our core curriculum we are deeply committed to providing extra-curricular activities and subject enrichment opportunities.

At King Edward VI School, we aim to inspire students to think, act and speak like linguists in order to enable them to communicate with increasing spontaneity, independence and accuracy. Our students are encouraged to develop a curiosity and understanding of the wider world.

Our students will study a wide range of topics in their language lessons, exploring art, literature and culture as well as using languages to express their immediate needs and interests. Students will be taught to speak and write using a range of tenses and grammatical structures to enable them to communicate with confidence for different purposes. We will challenge students to use vocabulary ambitiously to express their opinions and ideas when speaking and writing.

Our Curriculum is broad and engaging:

We recognise that students have a varied experience of MFL at Key Stage 2 and therefore a 3-year Key Stage 3 enables all students to pursue languages in depth. Students will be taught:

- to understand and respond to spoken and written language
- to speak with increasing confidence, fluency and accuracy
- to write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt.

In MFL, we aim to provide opportunities for students to communicate for practical purposes, learn new ways of thinking and read great literature in the original language.

In lessons, and through extra-curricular opportunities, students will be introduced to film, music and Art from other cultures to further their understanding of the world and to highlight the importance of language learning.

Our Curriculum promotes core literacy:

In MFL, we make cross-curricular links, particularly with English, to support literacy and grammar knowledge. We aim to develop public speaking skills to support students to feel confident with spoken tasks. We use translation skills as a way of building confidence in writing precise, natural-sounding prose in English and the languages taught in MFL. We work closely with the SEN department to ensure students on the SEN register make good progress. We ensure MFL is accessible for all our students.

Our Curriculum is values-based:

At King Edward VI School, we endeavour to promote the learning of a foreign language as an opening to other cultures as well as an important life skill. Within our curriculum, we will emphasise the importance of speaking a foreign language in a modern, global society as well as highlighting opportunities to pursue languages at KS4, KS5 and beyond. Language teaching will provide the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries. Through MFL lessons, students will gain an awareness of and an insight into other cultures through listening and contributing respectfully, developing their tolerance and appreciation of others in line with the school's core values of care, courage, creativity and curiosity. We aim to foster pupils' curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. This is particularly important at King Edward VI, as the majority of our students come from white British backgrounds.

Our Curriculum is knowledge-rich:

At King Edward VI School, we teach the knowledge needed to succeed in listening, speaking, reading and writing when language learning, based on a sound foundation of core grammar and vocabulary. Students are taught to identify and use a range of tenses and grammatical structures in order to access a range of texts through reading and listening as well as using and manipulating these in their own speaking and writing. Students will be taught a wide-ranging, varied vocabulary, allowing them to access and write texts. Our use of knowledge organisers supports students' independent learning of this foundational knowledge.