

Westcliff High School for Girls

Modern Foreign Languages Department

We have six specialist teachers including the Head of Department, all of whom are graduate linguists.

The Modern Foreign Languages department has good facilities, including a suite of four classrooms equipped with interactive boards. The Modern Foreign Languages Office has a separate working area for each teacher and the department has ample computer access.

All pupils study French in Year 7 and both French and Spanish in Year 8 in their form groups; studying each language for 6 lessons per fortnight. The school operates a three year Key Stage 4 course with all pupils choosing at least one language to continue with at the end of Year 9. All students are given the opportunity to study both languages if they wish.

It is the policy of the department to deliver KS3 and KS4 lessons using a mixture of traditional grammar teaching and innovative teaching and learning strategies. Students follow the Studio course in French and in Spanish students follow the Mira Express course. At GCSE students follow the Edexcel Specification and use the Higher level Edexcel textbooks however, we are looking to move to AQA with the new GCSE specification.

At Advanced Level, students also follow the Edexcel course, with teachers currently teaching Literature as the Research Based Essay topic in Year 13. Numbers at both AS and A2 in French and Spanish are good and a number of students from other schools join the school's sixth form and study a Modern Foreign Language.

There are also residential, educational trips arranged for students to France and Spain, which have proved very beneficial and popular.

We are a cohesive and hard-working team. We have high academic expectations and encourage independent learning in all our students and are proud of our results at GCSE, AS and A level.