



Bennett

Memorial Diocesan School

Latin Curriculum Area – Teacher of Latin

The Latin ‘team’ currently consists of one specialist Latin / Classics teacher.

Latin is studied by two classes of 30 students each in year 7. These students are invited to begin their study of Latin after their first term at Bennett, at the end of October. Students follow the Cambridge Latin Course. The timetable currently provides four hour-long lessons of Latin per fortnight in years 7 and 3 in year 8. At the end of year 8, students have the option to continue with Latin into year 9, an option they have again at the end of year 9, to choose Latin for GCSE. Students have 4 lessons per fortnight in year 9 and five lessons at GCSE.

At GCSE, we have elected to study the OCR specification, students sitting papers in Language, Verse Literature and Prose Literature. Year 10 students this year will begin their work on Livy and Cicero before studying Virgil next year. The current year 11 will be sitting exams this summer on ‘sagae Thessalae’ & ‘Pythius’ and ‘Echo and Narcissus’, Catullus and Petronius.

At A level, we also follow the OCR specification, this year’s year 12 students reading Cicero and Juvenal.

Examination results are outstanding with students typically securing 80%+ 9-7 at GCSE and 80%+ A-A* at A level. Uptake of Latin at GCSE and A level is extremely healthy for a mixed comprehensive school, the GCSE classes typically comprising 10-20 students and A level 2-7. There have also been a number of students choosing to go on to read Classics at Russell Group universities in recent years, including at Oxford and Cambridge. Indeed, there are 4 Bennett students currently studying at Oxford and Cambridge.

Bennett is strongly committed to developing teachers professionally, and believes that all staff should have an active and positive role to play in the development of policy and practice. As a designated Teaching School Hub for Kent we can offer a wide range of professional development opportunities both within Bennett and our network of secondary schools. These include the full range of National Professional Qualifications as well as full Early Career Induction.

Bennett is a Church of England school, and it is expected that all staff support the school’s distinctive ethos in their professional role.