



## THE CHARLES DICKENS SCHOOL – MFL Department

### Facilities

The department comprises two well sized and well placed rooms in the school, right next to each other, making it easier to work together as a department. We also have a large space for storage of all equipment and resources needed for teaching and learning. Both classrooms are large and hold a full class easily with space for the teacher to move around and the light and airy aspects of the rooms makes for a lovely teaching environment.

### Key Stage 3

At KS3 (Year 7 and 8) all students enjoy 3 hour long lessons a fortnight. The French language is a newer addition to the department therefore, we only have year 7 -10 students on the course. KS3 Spanish and French currently follow the EPI method developed by Gianfranco Conti, a teaching approach that focusses on language acquisition through developing processing skills.

### Key Stage 4

Students at KS4 have 5 hour long sessions a fortnight. We have one Year 11 Spanish classes and one Year 10 class this academic year and one Year 10 French class. The KS4 curriculum follows the Viva and Studio 3 and GCSE books but also incorporates some of the principals of the EPI method to develop the students processing skills with the language. Our exam board is AQA and we comprehensively work through the eight main units of study in the GCSE Viva and Studio books to cover the three themes in preparation for the exams.

### Beyond The Curriculum

As soon as possible, we look forward to planning our first overseas residential trips for our current cohort; we plan to work with other departments in the school to open the student's horizons to the worldly applications and practical uses of the language they are studying. We are working hard to develop the wider position of languages in the school and we are currently working towards International School Accreditation in the coming years. We also expose students to a diet of cultural learning and appreciation through the schools Cultural Capital programme, and planned international themed days.

### Staffing

The department is small but well-staffed with two full time members of staff and one part-time member, all of whom are subject specialists of French and Spanish.

September 2022