



# Why **you** should definitely pick a language at GCSE



# Why Languages?

**To broaden horizons** – in language lessons, we learn about the cultures of the target language country as well as the language itself. This is often supported by exposure to film and music of the language you choose .

**A life skill beyond the classroom** – the study of a language is not just for an exam! We hope that you will use your developing language skills in the “real” world. Some of our current year 10 will visit Barcelona in March and Paris in September in order to put their knowledge to the test “in the field”.

**Because it says a lot about YOU** – a person who is able to speak another language is a good communicator and a good problem solver. A linguist is someone who does not give up easily and is open-minded. Anyone can learn a language – you do not need to be ‘clever’. There are all sorts of ways to learn and we support students in finding the best way that suits their needs.

**You can play to your strengths** – your are NOT just assessed in writing.

**It is a major advantage for employability** - Your ability to speak another Language will help you to stand out against other candidates.

**It will make learning other languages easier** – you will become more conscious of your own native grammar and vocabulary – this will support your English language. What’s more, the techniques you use to learn your second language can be applied to other languages too – this means that learning a third (fourth?) language becomes even easier!



If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head.

If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart.

**Nelson Mandela**

# What jobs can I do with Languages?

Interpreter  
Teacher  
Translator  
Journalist  
Sport journalist  
Diplomatic services  
Intelligence services  
Event organiser  
Logistics & marketing  
Retail buyer

Tour manager  
Tourism  
Media  
Scientific marketing  
Engineering  
Aid work  
Banking  
Computer programmer  
Computer analyst



## **PLUS :**

You can **combine** languages with many degrees which makes you **even more** employable.....

Law  
Politics  
Business  
Journalism  
History  
Catering  
Economics  
Leisure & tourism  
ICT  
Sports....  
Marketing  
Media  
Criminology  
Another language!

# How will I be assessed ?



Assessment for Languages at GCSE is changing . Students in the current year 9 will do a completely DIFFERENT exam to the existing specification.

Please make sure that you look at the correct specification on the AQA website if you would like to go into more detail :

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages>



GCSE German

8662 New



GCSE Spanish

8692 New



GCSE French

8652 New

# How will I be assessed ?



## Paper 1 : Listening

Understanding and responding to spoken extracts comprising the **defined** vocabulary and grammar for each tier  
Dictation of short, spoken extract

## Paper 2 : Speaking

Speaking using clear and comprehensible language to:  
Undertake a role-play  
Carry out a reading aloud task  
Discuss a photo

## Paper 3 : Reading

Understanding and responding to written texts which focus mainly on the vocabulary and grammar at each tier  
Translating from French into English

## Paper 4 : Writing

### Foundation

Task 1 : write 5 short sentences  
Task 2 : 50 words in response to 5 bullet points  
Task 3: student completes five short grammar tasks  
Task 4: translation of sentences from English into French  
Task 5: piece of writing in response to three compulsory bullet points, approximately 90 words in total.

### Higher

Task 1 : translation of sentences from English into French  
Task 2 : piece of writing in response to three compulsory bullet points, approximately 90 words in total.  
Task 3: Open-ended writing task (student responds to two bullets, producing approximately 150 words in total).

# DUAL LANGUAGES

This year, more than twenty students in year 9 have taken up the opportunity to learn Spanish alongside their French or German. We are delighted to be able to offer these students the opportunity to continue their study to GCSE.



or





# DUAL LANGUAGES – the options form

If a student wishes to do **DUAL Languages**, they must select the language they have studied in year **9** in the EBACC option (i.e. French or German) and must then select the DUAL option in the Open option.

This means that students will be studying either French and Spanish or German and Spanish.



# DUAL LANGUAGES – Dare to be different!



Many schools in UK do NOT equip their students with one language at GCSE. You will be in the significant minority with 2!

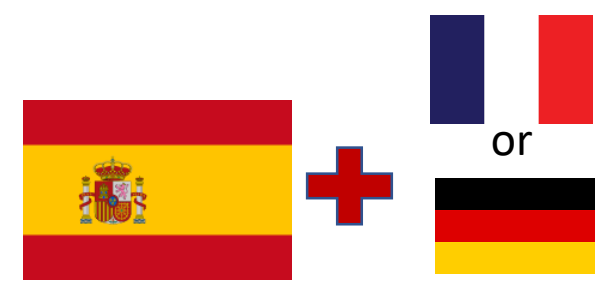
Do not base your decision on NOW. Project yourself to the age of 16 or 18. 2 languages makes you DIFFERENT & therefore attractive !!

2 languages put you ahead of the rest. They are ACADEMIC subjects. This says a lot about YOU to future employers.

Languages are considered to be a “facilitating” subject- they are a SKILL and are therefore “desirable” for many different types of courses – law, journalism, computer programming, banking ...



# DUAL LANGUAGES – Worries...



- Studying 2 languages is not necessarily “harder” : they actually help each other!
- I want to do triple science – is this too much? Actually, it says a lot about YOU if you have triple science **AND** 2 languages – it certainly gives you a BROAD subject base and keeps all your options open.
- Will I have to attend extra lessons like this year ? NO!!
- PLUS : the group will be small, therefore more time for you, a less formal lesson.