



Edition 5
February
2024

MFL

Curriculum Newsletter

YEAR 8

Contact



Kerrie Dodds
WPT MFL Subject Director
kdodds@rawmarsh.org



Curriculum Intent

The MFL curriculum is designed to empower students to draw maximum cultural, personal and economic benefit from the role of global citizenship.

Through oracy skills, expansion of vocabulary and literacy we aim to enable students to communicate confidently in a wide range of social settings. In KS3 we believe that our curriculum and enrichment content promote a seamless transition into the GCSE language course.

The MFL curriculum is sequenced to allow knowledge and skills to develop simultaneously and progressively. By revisiting and enhancing key language skills in different settings students develop their ability to recall, analyse and evaluate usage and at the same time build independence and resilience.

Year 8 Curriculum

The topics covered in Year 8 allow students to discover new vocabulary and revisit essential structures through a range of exciting and culturally relevant topics. You can click on the topics below to explore and access revision tips.

Some of the topics we cover in Year 8 are;

Coco and Le Petit Nicolas

Students have the opportunity to study a French and Spanish film. Lessons are dedicated to learning key vocabulary designed to enable students to describe characters and develop their opinions on the film. This topic brings the learning to life for students, allowing them to develop their listening and speaking skills and see the language they are studying brought to life on the big screen.

Opinions on Music

These lessons are based around the music of French and Spanish speaking countries. Students look at different musicians from around the world and listen to culturally authentic music. This gives students the opportunities to not only develop their listening skills but demonstrate and share their opinions on a wide range of musical genres.

Trip to a Restaurant

The aim of this topic is to ensure all students are able to use essential vocabulary to order food in a restaurant, a must for any budding linguist. Students build on their understanding of different foods and drinks, learn how to ask for things and see how the language can be used in a real-life setting.

Carnaval and Easter

Students learn about culturally important celebrations, Carnaval in Spain and Easter in France, learning key information about how and why these celebrations take place.

Fluency Skills




Dedicated lessons based on retrieval of previous topics and confidence building. Students have the opportunity to reflect on previous learning and link all key skills with the aim of improving their fluency in both languages.

Assessment Points




In Year 8, students are assessed each half-term in class, on a range of skills listening, reading, speaking or writing activities.

Immerse Yourself

The Language Gym

-  Vocab Trainer
-  Listening Trainer
-  Get Language Fit!

BBC Bitesize KS3 MFL

-  Interactive Homework
-  Study Guides and Videos
-  Independent Study

All of the topics we cover in MFL have sentence builders which contains all the vocabulary students need to succeed in their language lessons.

The sentence builder shows students how to link words into sentences with the added support of English translations.

These resources, along with the language gym online are essential tools that student can use to supplement their language learning and aid revision.

Test Your Knowledge with Quizlet...

Quizlet's Y8 MFL revision flashcards are a fantastic way to memorise relevant french and spanish terms to help you with your studies. Click on a flag below to start!



Praise and Reward

Our rewards system can be broadly split into four categories: classroom level, subject level, school level and privilege rewards. We'll focus on classroom and subject rewards here - for more information about our rewards schemes, please see our website.

CLASSROOM LEVEL REWARDS

Awarded for: working hard, taking risks and rising to a challenge, making mistakes and learning from them, helping others, and taking pride in the school community.

Rewarded by: praise postcards, positive phone calls to parents/carers, positive text messages home, and lesson based prizes.

SUBJECT LEVEL REWARDS

Reward scheme: Star of the Week, Curriculum Awards (Subject/School Way, Participation, Working with Pride, Embracing the Whole Curriculum), High Flyer, Extra Mile, Most Improved.

Rewarded by: names displayed on reward boards, certificates, social media posts.

Broadening Horizons

In MFL we aim to foster a learning environment supporting students to become global citizens. Our use of cultural resources helps to bring the language to life in the classroom, creating cultural experiences for all.

Outside of language lessons there are opportunities for students to develop an awareness and love of different cultures.

In literacy we look at a range of cultural topics such as; Day of the Dead, Tour de France and Bullfighting. We celebrate European Languages Day, offering different opportunities for students to take part in activities such as quizzes, karaoke and food tasting.

In addition, we have a cultural club after school providing students weekly sessions in culture from around the world.

Coco - A Spanish film study



The story follows a 12-year-old boy named Miguel who is accidentally transported to the Land of the Dead, where he seeks the help of his deceased musician great-great-grandfather to return him to his family among the living and to reverse his family's ban on music. Click on the film title to watch a clip now.

The History of Bull Fighting in Spain

Google Arts and Culture share the History of bull fighting online from the Musée des Cultures Taurines. Explore the origins of bull fighting in Spain by clicking on the graphic.



Careers

We run a series of 'Careers in the Curriculum' weeks in our school. For Modern Foreign Languages, this week takes place in February.

During MFL lessons, we investigate languages around the world and the importance of language learning in the global jobs market. Careers lessons raise students' awareness and understanding of where languages can take you.

Creative Multilingualism aimed to encourage young people in the UK to be ambitious and to think creatively about the career possibilities languages open up. Check out the youtube short by clicking on the logo below.



The MFL Way

Our subject has a 'Subject Way' at the heart of it. Our Subject Way is designed to help students become young subject specialists. The MFL Way is followed in all of our lessons and has two main purposes:

Firstly, to teach students the vital skills they need to achieve their full potential and gain the very best grades they can. Secondly, to teach students how each subject relates to the wider world, incorporating the life skills they will learn.

THE MFL WAY

WE USE OUR LISTENING SKILLS

We develop social skills using the languages that we learn

We break texts down

We respect & are interested in other cultures

We are interested in & know where languages can take us

We understand our own language better

WE WORK ON IMPROVING OUR MEMORY

We read, listen & watch things in another language

We problem solve

We use technology to enhance our language learning

We learn our vocabulary & use the language we learn

We develop confidence in our communication skills in different situations

THE MFL WAY
THE SUBJECT WAY

SUBJECT WAYS

Have Your Say... ✨

At WPT we're always looking for feedback. If you have any thoughts/opinions on this Curriculum Newsletter, its content or the curriculum in general, please click on the title to fill out a short feedback form.