

# Spanish at Norbury High

## Overview

The aim of the MFL Department is to develop confident, motivated, resilient and independent students of Spanish. We aspire to foster a love for learning languages throughout our students' school years and beyond.

Our programme helps to develop a strong cultural awareness of Spanish-speaking countries for students of all backgrounds and abilities. We supplement classroom learning with clubs, visits abroad and other enriching experiences. We help students develop a sound understanding of grammar they can apply in different contexts, e.g. the art of translation, understanding literary texts.

Our approach to delivering the curriculum incorporates careful planning, frequent reviews and scaffolded learning. Material is pitched to a high and challenging standard so that students can feel both supported and proud of their linguistic achievements.

## Key Stage 3 Spanish

### Year 7

Some students may have studied Spanish in primary school, and some will be starting from scratch. They will use the four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing to learn the topics and grammar below:

#### Topics

- The alphabet, birthdays and numbers; describing yourself, your family and pets
- Talk about the weather, your hobbies and leisure time activities
- Describe your school and the school day; give opinions on school subjects
- Describe other people and talk about where you live
- Describe your town, tell the time and talk about your weekend plans

#### Grammar

- Indefinite and definite articles
- Adjectives
- Possessive adjectives
- Verbs: present tense, introduction to the near future tense

### Year 8

Year 8 students continue to consolidate the topics covered in year 7 and become more competent language learners. Students use the following four skills: Speaking, listening, reading and writing.

Students learn about the following topics over the year:

- Describe your holidays
- Opinions on music, TV and mobile phones

- Talking about food, ordering in a restaurant
- Organising a trip out
- Planning a holiday, giving directions

#### Grammar

- Negatives
- Comparatives and superlatives, adjectives
- Using Usted/ustedes
- Using the imperative
- Verbs: present tense, preterite tense, near future, introduction to the conditional tense

## Year 9

Year 9 starts with a recap of the vocabulary and grammar studied in years 7 and 8 to create a solid foundation for using more complex language and grammar to discuss the following:

#### Topics

- Narrate holiday experiences, book hotels and plan holidays, discuss leisure time activities
- Discuss school life, describe your school, give your opinion on school rules and uniform
- Describe people and family in detail, discuss the pros and cons of social media

#### Grammar

- Identifying and giving opinions
- Using more complex linguistic structures
- Verbs: imperfect tense, present continuous
- Using past, present and future tenses together

## Key Stage 4 Spanish

Pupils will sit Edexcel GCSE Spanish at the end of year 11 and a speaking test in April. The GCSE course provides students of all abilities with the opportunity to build on the knowledge gained from Key Stage 3. It is designed to help all students develop a passion for languages through culturally engaging content.

**Four skills are developed and examined equally. All exams are externally assessed and are tiered. Students sit either foundation or higher level papers.**

The four skills are:

- Speaking
- Reading
- Listening
- Writing

#### Five Themes

During KS4, the following themes are studied in the context of Spanish-speaking countries.

- Local area, holiday and travel
- School
- Identity and culture

- Future aspirations, study and work
- International and global dimension

## Year 10

Students study three topics related to the GCSE themes, and regularly revise and re-visit the topics and grammar from previous years.

### Topics

- Local area, holiday and travel: discussing towns and describing your local area
- Identity and culture: discussing and giving your opinion on leisure time activities; and describing a variety of festivals and foods

### Grammar

- Adjectival agreements
- Question words
- Using *soler*, *se puede*
- Verbs: reflexives, using the passive, future tense, imperfect tense, perfect tense
- Using different tenses together

## Year 11

Students study two more topics related to the GCSE themes and regularly revise and re-visit the topics and grammar from the previous years. They then focus on language skills.

### Topics

- Future aspirations, study and work: the world of work, job applications and future plans
- International and global dimension: healthy lifestyles; sporting events; local and global environmental issues

### Grammar

- Verbs: pluperfect tense, imperfect continuous tense
- Present subjunctive, subjunctive + *cuando*
- Using different tenses together: present and present continuous, imperfect and preterite
- Varying vocabulary choices such as using alternatives to “and”
- Presenting a written argument with extended reasons
- Writing formal letters

### Skills

- Translation practice and techniques
- Speaking: conversation and photo description
- Writing: exam-style questions
- Listening and comprehension skills using exam questions