



Buile Hill
Academy

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

**Curriculum Guide for
Modern Foreign
Languages**



Our Vision and Approach in MFL

The overarching aims for pupils of languages at Buile Hill are **fluid communication** and a broad **cultural awareness** of Spanish and the Spanish-speaking world or French and the French-speaking world. Students will gain a **strong phonetic knowledge** to enable them to converse confidently (and pronounce new vocabulary) and a reinforcement of many **literacy skills** from their first language. They will learn how to **manipulate grammar** to allow them to **personalise information** and **retain core phrases** that can be recycled in a large number of **real-life situations**. Through this knowledge and confidence, students will become **resilient and competent linguists** who are open-minded and versatile communicators.

Language will be taught in **reusable chunks** (as opposed to individual words) as this helps pupils' fluency and long-term memory recall.

"Language learning is not simply about combining words and applying grammar rules but rather the retrieval of the patterns and combinations we are primed for." (Michael Hoey – Lexical Priming 2005)

"L 2 research has shown that making use of formulaic expressions and memorizing long chunks of text (and making substitutions within them) is far more efficient and effective than learning to assemble new linguistic strings in the process of language production." (Nation,2013 Ellis,2015)

Chunks can then be separated for **manipulation/alteration or to explain specific grammar**.

"A chunk is a frequently recurring, meaningful string of two or more words either fixed or with variable slots which can be learned as a single unit, without the need to analyse its elements. Once committed to L.T memory, a chunk can be retrieved and used 'as is' or with modifications, bypassing the need to generate it from individual words and grammatical rules."(Selivan, 2018).

What our students will learn

Our curriculum is designed to meet the demands of the National Curriculum, as well as equipping students with the skills and knowledge to be able to communicate effectively and to progress to further study.

All new students will study French and Spanish in Year 7. Currently, students in Year 8-9 study Spanish, with the option to continue to GCSE and complete the EBACC qualification.

MFL	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Autumn	Introducing myself and others	Music	Cinema	Holidays	Future Plans
		A trip to a French or Spanish city	Celebrations	My Life and my School	Global Issues
Spring	A French or Spanish town	Food	Careers and Future Plans	People	Revision
	Family Relationships	Sports and Hobbies	A Dream Holiday	Interests and Influences	Speaking and Writing Skills
Summer	Clothes and Weather	School Life	Environment	Cities	
			Survival Skills	Festivals and Traditions	

How you can support your child's learning in MFL:

- Homework is set on a weekly basis using [sentencebuilders.com](https://www.sentencebuilders.com) - all students have been given a username and password.
- Students are also encouraged to use [Duolingo.com](https://www.duolingo.com) to support their learning – they should enter a class code to be entered into the school competition.
- Don't be worried if you don't speak the language your child is learning! Quizzing them using a list of vocabulary is a fantastic way to practise and support your child's learning.
- Add subtitles or audio in the target language to films and TV you watch together – this is easily added on Netflix, Disney, iPlayer and most streaming services.
- There are a huge number of language learning apps, podcasts, websites etc. - some of which are listed below.

Websites you can visit:

www.duolingo.com (usually used as a mobile app)

www.lyricstraining.com (also available as an app – students can learn languages through music lyrics)

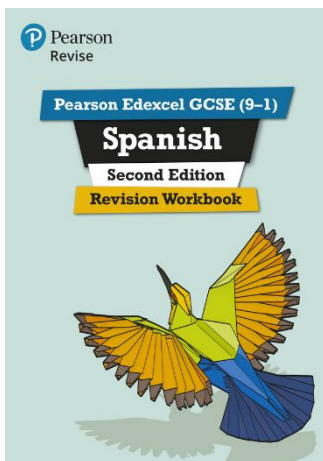
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z4kw2hv> - Select French or Spanish

www.memrise.com / www.quizlet.com - vocabulary learning

<https://www.youtube.com/@EasyFrench> / <https://www.youtube.com/@EasySpanish>

<https://www.newsinslowfrench.com/> / <https://www.newsinslowspanish.com/> (podcasts)

Books you can purchase:



<https://www.pearsonschoolsandcolleges.co.uk/secondary/subjects/modernlanguages/viva-pearson-edexcel-gcse-spanish/revise-pearson-edexcel-gcse-9-1-spanish-revision-workbook-second-edition>

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/ks3/languages/spanish/sphs32-ks3-spanish-complete-revision>

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/ks3/languages/french/fhs33-ks3-french-complete-revision-practice>