



Year 9! We hope that you will fall in love with our subjects and enjoy travelling, meeting new people, discovering new cultures and developing a deeper understanding of the world.

This presentation is designed to give you an overview of the French and Spanish GCSE courses and answer any questions that you might have.



# What can you expect?

**This is an EBACC GCSE that will cover 3 different themes over the length of the 2 year course. The topics are:**

## **Theme 1: Identity and culture**

### **Topic 1: Me, my family and friends**

- Relationships with family and friends
- Marriage/partnership

### **Topic 2: Technology in everyday life**

- Social media
- Mobile technology

### **Topic 3: Free-time activities**

- Music
- Cinema and TV
- Food and eating out
- Sport

### **Topic 4: Customs and festivals in French/Spanish -speaking countries/communities**



# What can you expect?

## **Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest**

**Topic 1:** Home, town, neighbourhood and region

**Topic 2:** Social issues

- Charity/voluntary work
- Healthy/unhealthy living

**Topic 3:** Global issues

- The environment
- Poverty/homelessness

**Topic 4:** Travel and tourism

## **Theme 3: Current and future study and employment**

**Topic 1:** My studies

**Topic 2:** Life at school/college

**Topic 3:** Education post-16

**Topic 4:** Jobs, career choices and ambitions

# What are the exams/assessments like?

There are four exams at the end of the course, which include:

- Listening
- Speaking
- Reading
- Writing.

Each exam is worth 25% of your overall grade. You are entered for the same tier (Foundation or Higher) for all four papers.

## **How it's assessed**

- Written exam: 35 minutes (Foundation Tier), 45 minutes (Higher Tier)
- 40 marks (Foundation Tier), 50 marks (Higher Tier)
- 25% of GCSE
- (Each exam includes 5 minutes' reading time of the question paper before the listening stimulus is played.)

## **Foundation Tier and Higher Tier**

- Section A – questions in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally
- Section B – questions in French/Spanish, to be answered in French/Spanish or non-verbally

## **When?**

End of Year 11

## How it's assessed

- 7–9 minutes (Foundation Tier ) + preparation time
- 10–12 minutes (Higher Tier) + preparation time
- 60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier)
- 25% of GCSE

## Foundation Tier and Higher Tier

- Role-play
- Photo card
- General conversation

## When?

End of Year 11

## How it's assessed

- Written exam: 45 minutes (Foundation Tier), 1 hour (Higher Tier)
- 60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier)
- 25% of GCSE

## Questions

- Section A – questions in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally
- Section B – questions in French/Spanish, to be answered in French/Spanish or non-verbally
- Section C – translation from French/Spanish into English

## When?

End of Year 11



## How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour (Foundation Tier) 50 marks at Foundation Tier
- 25% of GCSE
- Question 1 – message (student produces four sentences in response to a photo)
- Question 2 – short passage (student writes a piece of continuous text in response to four brief bullet points, approximately 40 words in total)
- Question 3 – translation from English into French/Spanish (minimum 35 words)
- Question 4 – structured writing task (student responds to four compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total) – there is a choice from two questions

## When?

End of Year 11



# PAPER 4 WRITING HIGHER TIER

## How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher Tier)
- 60 marks at Higher Tier
- 25% of GCSE

## Questions

- Question 1 – structured writing task (student responds to four compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total) – there is a choice from two questions
- Question 2 – open-ended writing task (student responds to two compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 150 words in total) – there is a choice from two questions
- Question 3 – translation from English into French/Spanish (minimum 50 words)

## When?

End of Year 11

# TOP 10 BENEFITS OF LEARNING A *Foreign Language*

**Eton Institute®**

Languages | Communication | Culture

**It is a fact that, learning a language helps your memory, creativity, listening skills and self confidence? By taking a language at GCSE you'll have amazing skills and a valuable talent that's applicable to almost everything you do**

- Boosts **brain** power. ...
- Improves **memory**. ...
- Enhances the ability to multitask. ...
- Sharpens the mind. ...
- Keeps the mind sharper for longer. ...
- Enhances decision-making. ...
- The first language is improved. ...
- Improves performance in other academic areas
- Increases Networking Skills Provides
- Better Career Choices

# So what are my career chances?



**Eastlea**  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Language skills can be used in almost any career, and particularly in businesses that trade internationally

## Job options

### **Jobs directly related to your degree include:**

Academic researcher

Interpreter

Political risk analyst

Secondary school teacher

Translator

### **Jobs where your degree would be useful include:**

Broadcast journalist

Detective

Diplomatic service officer

Education consultant

English as a foreign language teacher

International aid/development worker

Logistics and distribution manager

Marketing executive

Patent examiner

Private tutor

Publishing rights manager

Sales executive

Tour manager

**Remember that many employers accept applications from graduates with any degree subject, so don't restrict your thinking to the jobs listed here.**

# Did you know that.....?

**People who can speak another language can earn up to £7000 more than colleagues who do not!**

## **Jodie Foster**

The very intelligent Jodie Foster is fluent in French and understands Italian, German and Spanish from her frequent travels around the world. Her French is so good, she's even dubbed herself in French-language versions of her movies.

## **Natalie Portman**

The Star Wars actress can speak such a variety of languages from across the globe. Born in Jerusalem, she moved to the USA aged 3 and learned Hebrew at a Jewish elementary school. She's since studied Spanish, German, Japanese and English. This woman is exceptionally talented.

## **Novak Djokovic**

Tennis champion Novak Djokovic speaks five languages

– [Serbian](#), [English](#), [German](#), [Italian](#) and [French](#). He studied English and German at primary school, and learned Italian when he worked with coach Riccardo Piati. In an interview with [Tennis Talk](#) in 2013, he said, 'We have a saying in our country: The more languages you know, the more is your worth as a person. I like to understand what people are saying wherever I am, at least to pick up a few phrases of those languages.'

# Don't limit your chances, but make the sky the limit



**Nelson Mandela, the former president of a country where at least 18 different languages are spoken, explained this need of relating to people in their own native language. He said "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."**

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