



January 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Re: Planned enrichment opportunities in languages

Languages are an integral part of the curriculum at Trinity. The Department for Education has stated that 'learning a language is a liberation from insularity and provides an opening to other cultures'. Indeed, when students study a language at Trinity, it helps to equip our students with the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life. It encourages students to appreciate and celebrate differences in society and provides the foundation for learning further languages. Learning a language enables students to study and work in other countries. The economic value of speaking other languages is well evidenced. It enhances human capital, with multilingual individuals potentially earning higher wages and having better labour-market outcomes.

The outcomes of students at Trinity in Spanish and French are outstanding. The impact of the curriculum is reflected in the excellent attainment results at Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 in 2022 and historically. Students make progress which is significantly above the national average in languages and in the highest 20% of schools. Overall attainment across both subjects is also significantly above national data. Key successes include 63% of students achieving 9-7 (25% of students achieved a grade 9) in their French GCSE this year and 40% of students achieved a grade 9-7 in Spanish.

One key priority of the school is to build upon this success and continue to enrich languages through the wider curriculum offer. Trinity has a continued commitment to take language learning beyond the classroom. As such, I would like to draw your attention to some of the key planned enrichment opportunities on offer in 2023 below. These opportunities are currently being developed with the finer details being prepared. In many cases these will be open to all students and in some cases for specific year groups or groups of students. The languages department will continue to build upon this offer throughout the year and contact parents with details as necessary.

Main School Office

Upper Site: Mornington Road, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 0TP Telephone: 020 8504-3419

Lower Site: Sydney Road, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 0TB Telephone: 020 8504-8946

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Diocese of Brentwood



Trinity Catholic High School

Headmaster: Dr P C Doherty OBE, BA (Hons), DPhil (Oxon), FRSA

- **Trips to International House, The French Institute and the BFI.** These trips will involve language immersion days; bespoke experiences for students and interactive French and Spanish cinema activities. All designed to help students gain an understanding of the cultures associated with the target language and to encourage learners to use the language in a meaningful context.
- **Guest speakers on the importance of languages and use in the work place.** Having access to external speakers in school allows students to engage with people who can share their inspiration and broaden student horizons in languages.
- **University talks from leading language institutions.** Students will have access to outreach programmes which further promote the importance of language learning and where this can take students in future.
- **Language theatre experiences.** Students will have access to inspiring plays in foreign languages in both French and Spanish. These will include La Casa de Bernarda Alba at the Cervantes theatre and plays delivered by the Onatti theatre company.
- **Letter exchanges.** Students will exchange letters with schools in France and Mexico, maximising the opportunities available for cultural exchange.
- **Competitions.** There will be many opportunities to engage in competitions each term such as Spelling Bees, Translation Bees, and other language challenges such as the Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators.
- **Cross Curricular.** Students at Trinity will have the opportunity to engage in role play with the drama department as well as engage in cookery events with the food department.
- **Lunchtime French and Spanish.** Languages assistants will be introducing Spanish to selected French students and French to selected Spanish students over the course of six sessions.
- **Mandarin and Arabic lessons.** There are opportunities for the study of other languages such as Mandarin (Year 9 and 10) and Arabic (Year 8) after school from January to March 2023.

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- **British Council.** Whether it is improving communication skills, preparing for an increasingly globalised workplace, or simply staying connected with friends from around the world, students will have access to resources produced by the British Council so that they further understand that language learning is more important than ever.

I hope that the above sample of enrichment experiences inspires our students further by being able to communicate with others outside of the UK; develop their perception of the usefulness of the target language and involvement in intercultural activities and exchanges; discover more about other cultures and peoples and in the context in which the language is rooted and further students positive view of themselves as language learner.

Best Wishes

Yours Sincerely,

Mr D Baker

KS4 Director of Curriculum, Teaching & Learning

Miss S Diez

Subject Leader for MFL

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