

URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL

MFL DEPARTMENT

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Languages Faculty is a highly successful Faculty and an extremely supportive environment to work in, and is united by a strong team spirit. It has a balance of full time and part time staff, that are experienced and there is an excellent work ethic of sharing resources and supporting each other. In the Faculty, there is a Head of Languages (and Head of French.), Head of German, Head of Spanish

The Faculty is very well resourced. In French, students use a range of resources at Key Stage 3 - from our own devised resources to exciting online resources; we use Tricolore Total 4 at KS4 as well as an online textbook and there is also access to a variety of resources at KS5, including Edexcel and AQA textbooks and a range of online resources we have invested in to support Teaching and Learning of the new curriculum. Students take pride in their work and are keen to get involved both inside and outside the classroom, as they feel nurtured, supported and challenged.

The Faculty has growing international links and annual trips/exchanges, including a Year 9 exchange with an Ursuline school in Bayonne and a trip to Normandy. The Faculty is located just above the staffroom; the classrooms all have interactive whiteboard facilities and a teacher's computer; ICT resources such as Boardworks and TaskMagic have been purchased, as well as numerous yearly subscriptions to other online resources, making lessons and learning engaging and fun. The Faculty has a purpose built ICT room where all KS4 classes can use weekly for differentiated listening, oral and exam practise.

Results are very good in the faculty: Students study 2 languages in Year 8 and above 85% of students take a language at GCSE. Last year, MFL results showed excellent progress and students coped well with the new exam format: at GCSE, 69% of students obtained a grade 5+ in German, 72% in French and 86% in Spanish. Grade 9-7 data was also pleasing for a first year of the new specifications, with 25% of students achieving a grade 7 or above in French, 27% in German and 55% in Spanish! The retention in the Sixth Form for MFL is above national average and we are lucky enough to be able to offer a subsidised work experience abroad to Sixth Form students in all 3 languages.

MFL Ursuline teachers are all friendly, dedicated and very caring. Student progress is at the heart of everything we do and we constantly discuss and review our practice- our main goals are to pass on our passion for languages, to teach engaging lessons and to make the best use of assessment and marking to ensure all our students feel ready for their public exams.

Melanie Guillet-Siad

Head of Languages