

SPANISH

There are over 300 million native speakers of Spanish throughout the world and Spanish is the second most widely spoken language after English. Indeed not only is it thriving in its traditional heartland of Spain and Latin America, but there are increasingly large areas of the United States where it is the main language. The Hispanic world is enormously diverse and many of its aspects are open to study, be they sociological, historical, artistic or literary.

The aims of the course are to develop the ability to use Spanish effectively for purposes of practical communication and to form a sound base for the skills, language and attitudes required for further study, work and leisure. Lessons are conducted substantially in the target language and the students have a weekly speaking lesson with our Spanish Language Assistant.

The specification covers distinct themes. These themes apply to all four question papers. Students are expected to understand and provide information and opinions about these themes relating to their own experiences and those of other people, including people in countries/communities where Spanish is spoken.

Lessons are conducted substantially in the target language and cover the following range of topics:

Theme 1 - Identity and Culture

- Topic 1: Me, my family and friends
- Topic 2: Technology in everyday life
- Topic 3: Free-time activities
- Topic 4: Customs and festivals in Spanish-speaking countries/communities.

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

- Topic 1: Home, town, neighbourhood and region
- Topic 2: Social issues
- Topic 3: Global issues
- 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

The course leads to the AQA GCSE Certificate in Spanish. It is assessed in the skills of writing, speaking, reading and listening by examination at the end of Year 11.