

**MODERN LANGUAGES FACULTY**

The Faculty has a highly supportive hard-working Staff, committed to helping pupils achieve their full potential.

**Faculty aims:**

- To teach pupils to communicate;
- To prepare pupils for their future needs;
- To lay a sound foundation for further or higher education courses involving languages ;
- To foster awareness of how language works;
- To foster awareness of the relationships between languages, especially between English and the foreign languages being taught;
- To help pupils learn how to learn a language;
- To contribute, especially in upper classes, to general skills such as scanning, deduction, analysis, synthesis, memorisation, comparison, etc.;
- To encourage pupils to develop informed opinions and be able to support them by reasoned argument;
- To broaden horizons by knowledge of and insight into life of other peoples;
- To combat insularity and prejudice;
- To promote study of the civilisation of the countries whose languages we teach ;
- To value each pupil as an individual regardless of race, sex, origin or special educational needs;
- To enable each pupil to fulfil his/her potential;
- To seek to ensure that pupils enjoy their language learning experience;
- To develop the ability to work both independently and in co-operation with others;
- To encourage pupils to visit other countries for themselves.

**Facilities:**

The faculty has four full-size dedicated teaching rooms in the main school - all of which are equipped with interactive whiteboards and access to ICT via departmental laptops. The vast majority of lessons are taught in these rooms.

**Staffing:**

The structure of the Faculty from September 2015 is as follows:

Mrs. Diana Shakeshaft	Head of Faculty, Head of French	French, German
Mrs. Carmel Grace	Head of German	German, French
Miss Fiona Eaves	Head of Spanish	Spanish/French
Mrs. Michelle Orr	Part time	French
Mr. Barry Brownlow	Part time	Spanish, French
Vacancy		French with Spanish

### **Curriculum:**

The Modern Foreign Languages Faculty is an increasingly popular subject with our pupils. In Key Stage 3 all pupils learn French for two hours per week. In Year 8 those whose progress in French is very good are offered the opportunity to learn either German or Spanish, for one hour per week, as a second Modern Foreign Language.

At Key Stage 4, which since September 2012 commences with year 9, thus providing a much needed three year opportunity for languages to deliver a bridging year for the ever increasing Ebacc cohorts, our students have the choice of opting for French, Spanish or German GCSE Edexcel specification. In addition to the timetabled sessions, students have personalized learning programmes designed to enhance their pronunciation, intonation and fluency, whilst building their confidence in speaking, which is gradually becoming, for many students, the strongest skill.

In the Sixth Form we offer French, Spanish and German 'A' Level. Classes have five hours per week with students following the AQA French and Spanish syllabi and Edexcel German specification.

Since the introduction of a 3 year KS4 from September 2012 our dedicated we have been able to deliver a welcome foundation course initially, whilst affording all our students the opportunity to develop their skills according to individual needs, whilst familiarizing themselves with assessment format at this level. The diverse nature of language learning at Rainhill High School is providing an ever increasing number of students with crucial life and work skills and extensive study and career opportunities. Half of our students opt for one or two languages and Raise on Line has shown our GCSE results to be typically well above national averages.

Our students have the opportunity to experience the target language culture via trips to Spain and Germany, whilst in the 6<sup>th</sup> form, students are forging links with French peers in an aim to develop an exchange program.

**Diana Shakeshaft**  
**Head of Languages Faculty**