

## The MFL Department - What is our Vision?

The Bolingbroke Academy MFL department is committed to broadening pupils' understanding of the world and developing strong, long-life linguistic skills. Along with learning new topics, reinforcing knowledge every lesson is the key aspect of learning a language: we give pupils plenty of opportunity to practice and therefore remember key vocabulary. This is the first step towards becoming independent as a language learner and therefore creative with the target language. Through strict adherence to the ten 'Non-negotiable principles for outstanding teaching and learning' set out in the Academy Teaching and Learning policy, we ensure our staff have the tools to deliver outstanding MFL lessons which are engaging and allow ALL pupils to make at least 6 sub levels of progress in Year 7 and 3 sub levels of progress in Year 8 and above.

- **Teaching and Learning:** Bolingbroke Academy MFL Department is a dynamic, enthusiastic department; a collaborative approach to teaching and learning is embedded within daily practice and future planning. The department endeavours to make learning languages fun and meaningful, providing pupils with many opportunities for collaboration and independent work in each lesson. We are committed to marking all pupils' books fortnightly and providing effective feedback through the use of symbol and comments. Pupils will be allocated time within lessons and homework tasks to make those corrections, using the symbols sheet which they have in the front of their books.
- **Use of TL:** With skilled linguists in the department, we endeavour to challenge our pupils by using a high ratio of target language. It is also one of our department aims to encourage pupils to use the target language with each other in pair and group work. Both elements of using the target language ensure that pupils are hearing authentic language each time they are in the MFL classroom.
- **Developing pupils' creativity:** We believe that becoming confident with a language is a springboard to creativity both in and out the classroom. Within the classroom, we encourage pupils to take part in role plays entirely in the target language, or pupils work independently to challenge their writing skills. Outside of the classroom, we also encourage at least one creative piece of homework per half term, where pupils have the time to develop their knowledge and to design an impressive project.
- **Reflective learners:** Within the MFL classroom, we consistently emphasise that it is ok to make mistakes. We believe where pupils learn is in deciding how they move on from these errors. This open environment allows pupils to grow in confidence and not feel intimidated in speaking out in front of the class. We also provide learners with opportunities to practise on mini whiteboards allowing for mistakes to be easily corrected.
- **Broaden their cultural references: Providing** opportunities to promote incultural understanding is a vital element of language learning. We are therefore committed to ensuring that each topic contains element of cultural reference to not only the target language country, but the wider Francophone, Hispanic or Germanic spheres.