

## Buckler's Mead Academy

### Modern Foreign Languages - Subject Information

***“If you talk to someone in a language they understand, that goes to their head. If you talk to them in their own language, that goes to their heart.” - Nelson Mandela***

Our intention at Buckler's Mead Academy is for our students to become confident, open-minded and forward-thinking, life-long language learners, with an appreciation for diversity. We passionately believe in instilling cultural capital by engaging our students in interesting and enriching opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom. Our intent mirrors our whole school vision and values of Enjoyment, Opportunity, Community, Success and Ambition and we strive for our curriculum to embrace all of these values. We intend to equip all of our students with the phonics, grammar, vocabulary and cultural knowledge to become competent communicators in a foreign language and to develop the language skills sought by local businesses and employers.

Before arrival at Buckler's Mead Academy, students choose either French or German and continue to develop the knowledge of their chosen language. Students cover a variety of topics and themes, many of which are taught within the cultural context of the country/countries where the language is native. We impart the curriculum knowledge through engaging and inspiring activities and we encourage the use of the target language in lessons.

At the start of each academic year, we reinforce the importance of why everyone should study a language by running a week of in-class and extra-curricular activities which promote cultural diversity. When possible, we also offer an educational visit abroad at the end of each academic year, and other world-language events during the year. Speakers of other languages (both native and non-native) are encouraged both in and out of lessons to compare and contrast their language, cultural experiences and traditions with those of the language/country we are studying to broaden their, and other students', cultural and linguistic understanding and appreciation. We also celebrate cultural diversity within our school through assemblies, tutor group activities and language ambassadors from within our school community.

By the end of Key Stage 3, students will be confident in understanding and producing language in at least three different tenses, they will be able to express opinions in a variety of ways and will demonstrate understanding of a range of texts (including authentic texts) written for different purposes and situations, including answering questions both in English and in the target language. The students' work will be accomplished in using a variety of connectives in order to make their work more fluent. We enrich our languages curriculum further by including opportunities to embrace and appreciate the culture of the countries they are studying the language of, including literature and poetry from a variety of Francophone and Germanic authors and poets.