



IB Standard Spanish Upper 6th

Curriculum Intent

The Spanish department seeks to develop ambitious and resilient linguists who recognise their common humanity and strive to gain inter-cultural understanding and respect.

We aim to provide an understanding of Spanish in a range of themes from social changes, global issues and history which enables students to communicate effectively in authentic situations on their exchange visits and prepared for the challenges of developing the language at a higher level and with an aspiration to continue the language at University or to at least see its value in their future career paths. We intend develop our students to be inquisitive and curious about Hispanic cultures, knowledgeable and understanding, open-minded and courageous as they personally develop through their learning of Spanish.

“El que lee mucho y anda mucho, ve mucho y sabe mucho” Miguel de Cervantes

“He who reads a lot, walks a lot, sees a lots and knows a lot.”

Students will learn:

In Upper Sixth we dive deeper into the 5 set IB themes.

- Identities
 - Beliefs & values
 - Subcultures
 - Language & identity
- Experiences
 - Rites of passage
 - Customs & traditions
 - Migration
- Human ingenuity
 - Communication & media
 - Technology
 - Scientific innovation
- Social organization
 - Education
 - The working world
 - Law & order
- Sharing the planet
 - Human rights
 - Peace & conflict
 - Equality
 - Globalization
 - Ethics

Knowledge, understanding & Skills

- To gain an enriched vocabulary and grammatical understanding in order to understand and communicate.
- To understand and evaluate a wide variety of written and spoken authentic personal, professional and mass media texts.
- To speak and write with a purpose, in order to meet a wide range of communicative needs: describing, narrating, comparing, explaining, persuading, justifying, evaluating.
- To be able to confidently initiate, maintain and close oral exchanges, displaying ability to make adjustments in style or emphasis.
- To use a variety of strategies to maintain the flow of conversations and discussions on a variety of topics.
- To have a developed knowledge of vocabulary and grammar, as well as conceptual understanding of how language works.
- To demonstrate a thorough understanding of Hispanic culture.
- To develop deeper thinking through TOK Questions.

How will we assess impact?

Our teaching encourages regular learning of key vocabulary and refinement of grammatical structures that are tested regularly. Translation skills are honed via weekly 10-point tests. Teachers assess pupils less formally in class via the four skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing. Pupils work collaboratively in pairs and groups to constantly improve their speaking skills, providing peer feedback.

Each half-term pupils take an assessment in test conditions during lesson time. In January of the Upper Sixth pupils take a full-length IB style examination, which helps to predict their final grade as accurately as possible and to offer the students an opportunity to experience the speed and attention to detail required in the examination.

The speaking examination is a photo stimulus task with a discussion on the themes and cultures that have been covered.



How can you enhance your learning at home?

- Memrise
- Quizlet
- Conjuguemos
- Languagesonline
- Cambridge elevate
- Flipped learning
- Essay bank
- Zigzag resources
- “Un dia en...” story stories
- PADLET
- IB Spanish B course book
- William Tweed Resources library

What does excellence look like?

- Deep understanding of language and grammar.
- Confident use of Target Language
- Accurate use of a range of complex grammatical structures
- Detailed, logical arguments and conclusions that consistently link
- Consistent variation of grammatical structures, including in use of complex language, producing consistently articulate writing
- Consistently varied use of vocabulary, allowing ideas to be conveyed in a variety of different ways
- Accurate language throughout resulting in consistently coherent writing and speech for a range of purposes
- Any errors do not hinder clarity of communication

International Opportunities

Visits Programmes

Options for visits to Spain in the Upper Sixth are more limited. Our Upper Sixth students act as ambassadors for our visits programme, encouraging younger students to be brave and to grab the opportunity to stay with a Spanish-speaking family or to undertake work experience abroad.

Many of our Spanish IB students took part in the long-term visit in year 10 or the work experience visit to Madrid in the Lower Sixth and continue to meet their partners for years to come

Within the curriculum

- 1-1 Speaking sessions with a Native Speaker to develop speaking skills and cultural understanding.
- Film and literature studies.
- Use of authentic materials to provide an immersion into the Target Language and culture.
- An exploration of the Hispanic world through all themes studied.

Wider Reading

- Practicaespanol.com
- El mundo
- El país
- Muyinteresante.es
- *A load of Bull*, Tim Parfitt
- *A woman unknown*, Lucia Graves
- *The Ghosts of Spain's past*, Giles Tremlett
- *The New Spaniards*, John Hopper
- *Bodas de Sangre*, Garcia Lorca
- *Eva Luna*, Isabelle Allende

Matriculation requirements

To be able to access the IB Standard Spanish course, students should have gained at least a grade 5 in GCSE Spanish, or the same level in an equivalent qualification.



“Si hablas a una persona en la lengua que entiende, las palabras irán a su cabeza. Si le hablas en su propia lengua, las palabras irán a su corazón.”

Nelson Mandela

“If you talk to a person in a language they understand, the words go to the head. If you talk to them in their own language, the words go to their heart.”