

SUBJECT: JAPANESE

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: Mrs H Latimer

SYLLABUS NUMBER: Edexcel 1Ja0

SYNOPSIS OF CONTENT

The emphasis throughout the course is on communication and practical, useful language and aims to enable students to develop an understanding of key vocabulary and structures in a variety of contexts; transferable language learning skills; the ability to communicate effectively and an awareness and understanding of countries and communities where Japanese is spoken.

Pupils will study the following topics:

1. Identity and culture
2. Local area, holiday, travel
3. School
4. Future aspirations, study and work
5. International and global dimension.

For listening and reading, pupils will be expected to understand native speakers at varying speeds and material such as extended texts, signs, brochures, letters and articles. Japanese will be used as much as possible in class and students will be expected to develop their spontaneous spoken use of the language.

For speaking and writing, pupils will be expected to know essential language and, at Higher Level, to communicate about what has happened in the past, their opinions and future events. For the highest grades they are expected to narrate stories, justify opinions as well as use a wide array of tenses and complex structures. Students will gain skills in recognising, adapting and applying key structures in their own spoken and written production.

ASSESSMENT

2 year linear course with 100 exam at the end. Each skill (listening, speaking, reading and writing) counts for 25%.

RESOURCES

Kimono text book, work book and exercise books

The main text book will often be supplemented by other materials for specific purposes.

A good dictionary is essential for homework.

SETTING ARRANGEMENTS

There is only one group for Japanese.

Students need to have studied Japanese in Year 9 or have a good background understanding of Katakana and Hiragana.

SELF STUDY ADVICE

A strong commitment to vocabulary learning is essential for listening and reading exam preparation.

Pupils should listen to and read as much Japanese as possible: radio, TV, DVDs, magazines and short newspaper articles.

EXTRA CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Participation in the Eisteddfod in March.

Possibility of a visit to the Japanese Embassy.