



A Level Japanese Lower 6th

Curriculum Intent

The Japanese 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 Japanese 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 culture, knowledgeable and understanding, open-minded and courageous as they personally develop through their learning of Japanese.

新しい言語は、新たな人生の始まり。 – A new language, a new life. Proverb.

Students will learn:-

- **Extensive grammatical knowledge including:**
 - Developing knowledge of characters
 - Use of tenses
 - Pronouns
 - Complex structures to improve quality of language.

Students will cover the first 2 A Level themes:

- **The changing lifestyles of young people**
 - Education
 - Youth Health
 - Relationships
- **Changing cultures**
 - Popular culture e.g. Manga & Anime
 - The impact of technology
 - Festivals

What does excellence look like?

- Extensive knowledge of vocabulary
- Confident use of Target Language
- Understanding of issues/themes/cultural or social contexts demonstrated through convincing interpretations and points of view, consistently justified with appropriately selected evidence
- 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
- Appropriate use of text formats and style.
- Accurate language throughout resulting in consistently coherent writing and speech
- Any errors do not hinder clarity of communication

Knowledge, understanding & Skills

- Vocabulary of themes covered
- Wider grammatical understanding
- Response to spoken text in writing, showing understanding of the main points, gist and detail.
- Response to written text in writing and speaking, showing understanding of the main points, gist and detail.
- Summary of a written text in speaking (Task 1).
- Summary of a spoken text in writing.
- Translation into and from Japanese.
- Discussion on a theme showing knowledge and understanding of the target language context and culture.
- Expressing viewpoints and justifying opinions.
- Developing an argument and reaching a logical conclusion.
- Analysing the work.
- Evaluating the form or techniques used in the work.
- Presenting and justifying viewpoints.
- Developing logical arguments to persuade.
- Relating the work to key concepts, issues and the social context
- Writing a critical response.

How can you enhance your learning at home?

- Memrise
- Flipped learning
- Genki Textbook
- Kanji Book Vol 1. & Vol.2
- Essay bank and sample assessments
- William Tweed Resources Library
- PADLET



How will we assess impact?

Our teaching encourages regular learning of key vocabulary and refinement of grammatical structures that are tested regularly. Vocabulary recall is developed 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 June of the Lower 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. Both the written and reading papers also assess translation and the speaking examination covers the themes covered. In Lower 6th students will begin to develop and be assessed on research skills in advance of the Independent Research Project in Upper 6th.



Wider Reading

- Introduction to Japanese culture – Daniel Sosnoski
- Japanese stories for language learners – Anne McNulty & Eriko et al.

International Opportunities

Visits Programmes

- AES has a partner school in Tokyo
- University visits or cultural day visits may be arranged.

Within the curriculum

- The IB curriculum is designed to deepen understanding and appreciation of Japanese culture and customs.
- Students are encouraged to research each theme beyond lessons and set work to ensure that they can draw on a wide knowledge of the culture and society.



言語を知るとは、賢者への道。

Proverb

“Knowledge of languages is the doorway to wisdom.”