



IB Standard Russian Lower 6th

Curriculum Intent

The Russian 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 Russian in a range of themes from social changes, global issues and history which enable students to communicate effectively in authentic situations and are 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 to 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 Russian.

Edmund de Waal — "With languages, you are at home anywhere."

Students will learn:-

- Extensive grammatical knowledge including how to use language in a variety of purposes.

The course has 5 prescribed themes which are covered across the 2-year course:

- Identities
 - Lifestyles
 - Healthy & well-being
 - Beliefs & values
 - Subcultures
 - Language & identity
- Experiences
 - Leisure activities
 - Holidays & travel
 - Life stories
 - Rites of passage
 - Customs & traditions
 - Migration
- Human ingenuity
 - Entertainment
 - Artistic expression
 - Communication & media
 - Technology
 - Scientific innovation
- Social organization
 - Social relationships
 - Community

What does excellence look like?

- Extensive knowledge of vocabulary
- Confident use of Target Language
- Critical analysis 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

- To build on the range and complexity of the language they use and understand in order to communicate.
- To understand and evaluate a wide variety of written and spoken authentic personal, professional and mass media texts of increasing difficulty.
- To speak and write, and with a purpose, in order to meet a wide range of communicative needs: describing, narrating, comparing, explaining, persuading, justifying, evaluating.
- To be able to initiate, maintain and close oral exchanges, displaying ability to adapt styles.
- To use a variety of strategies to maintain the flow of conversations and discussions on a variety of topics.
- To develop knowledge of advanced vocabulary and grammar, as well as conceptual understanding of how language works.
- To develop understanding of the relationship between the language and culture
- To develop deeper thinking through TOK Questions.

How can you enhance your learning at home?

- Memrise
- Flipped learning
- iamruss.ru/rossiya-v-tsifrah-infografika/
- learnrussian.rt.com
- globaldimension.org.uk
- russianforeveryone.com
- russianforfree.com
- 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.

International Opportunities

Visits Programmes

- Dependant on demand, students may have the opportunity to take part in the study visit to St Petersburg & Moscow in March.
- University visits or cultural day visits may be arranged.



Within the curriculum

- 1-1 sessions with a volunteer Native Speaker to develop speaking skills and wider cultural understanding.
- The IB curriculum is designed to deepen understanding and appreciation of Russian 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.



Wider Reading

Russian culture & customs

<https://www.livescience.com/44154-russian-culture.html>

The Penguin History of Modern Russia – Robert Service

Russian Short Stories – Simple language learning

“Новый язык - это новая жизнь.”

Czech proverb

“A new language is a new life.”