Why study this course?

- Communication and adaptability skills: An obvious benefit to learning a new language is to be able to communicate with the people who speak it including people you meet when travelling as well as people in your own community.
- Cultural understanding: Speaking another language helps you to get to know about other people and cultures; it gives you a wider view of the world.
- Brain power! Foreign language study can help to increase problem-solving skills, memory, self-discipline, grammatical and linguistic understanding of your own language.

Course outline

Two main themes in Year 12, plus the following:

- Being a young person in Spanish-speaking society
- Understanding the Spanish-speaking world
- Diversity and difference
- The two Spains: 1936 onwards
  - “Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios” feature film by director Pedro Almodóvar
  - A Spanish novel – El otro árbol de Guernica by Luis de Castresana

How am I assessed?

The WJEC A-level exam in the following components at the end of Year 13

Component 1. Speaking (21-23 minutes) (30% of A-level)

Task 1 – Presentation and discussion of an independent research topic of an aspect that interests you related to the countries or communities where Spanish is spoken.
Task 2 – Discussion based on a written stimulus

Component 2. Listening, Reading & Translation (2h30) (50% of A-level)

Listening – True/False answers, multiple choice answers, answers to questions in Spanish
Reading – Gap fill tasks and answers to questions in Spanish
Translation – One translation into English. One translation into Spanish. (100 words each)

Component 3. Critical response in writing. (2 hours) (20% of A-level)

Two essays of 300 words each; on the film and one on the novel in which you write a critical response referring to characters, themes, structure and social & historical context.

Where does this course lead?

MFL students in the UK find it easier to get jobs and there is a wider choice of jobs for MFL students. By choosing languages, you’re enhancing your career options. Language graduates have a whole range of career opportunities open to them, including manufacturing, sales, banking/finance, community/social services, transport/communications.