

LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Modern Languages

National 4 and National 5

***All pupils at Balfron High School study French as their main language from S1-2, building on their knowledge acquired at Primary school. In S2 pupils also have lessons in both German and Spanish. In S3, pupils can then choose to continue their study of French and /or Spanish and/ or German.**

French, Spanish, German in S3/4

Aims of the National 4 and 5 courses

As in S1 –S2, the aim of the Modern Languages courses is to enhance the pupils' communication skills through the consistent development of the skills of Listening, Talking, Pronunciation, Reading, and Writing and to develop a knowledge of the structure of the foreign language and how it relates to their own.

From June of S2 until December of S3 pupils will complete level 3 and 4 outcomes and from January of S3 until the end of S4 will be preparing for a National Qualification at either National 4 or 5 level.

In addition, pupils' awareness of other cultures and international citizenship will be enhanced and generic skills, such as working with others, research skills, skills in presenting information, and IT skills will be developed.

Pupils' skills in Listening, Talking, Reading and Writing will be continuously assessed throughout S3/4. During S4 a decision will be made with regards to the most appropriate examination for each pupil: National 4 or 5.

COURSE CONTENT FOR NATIONAL 4

The course is delivered in a variety of settings: Society, Learning Employability and Culture. The course offers opportunities for personalisation and choice. To achieve the National 4 Modern Languages Course, learners must pass all 3 Units: Understanding language (Reading and Listening), Using language (Writing and Talking) and the Added Value Unit where pupils will be required to provide evidence of their ability to apply their Reading, Listening, Talking and Writing skills in the Modern Language on a topic chosen by them. There is no external examination but the Added Value Unit will be externally verified. The course provides progression to a National 5 in Modern Languages.

COURSE CONTENT FOR NATIONAL 5

This Course is made up of two mandatory Units: Understanding language (Reading and Listening) and Using language (Writing and Talking), an Added Value Unit to provide evidence of their ability to apply their Reading, Listening, Talking and

Writing skills in the modern language on a topic chosen by them and an external examination in Reading, Listening and Writing set by the SQA. Pupils will also sit an N5 internal writing assessment which will be marked externally. The course is delivered in a variety of settings: Society, Learning Employability and Culture. The course offers opportunities for personalisation and choice. The course provides progression to a Higher in Modern Languages.

INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING

As in S1-2, there will be the opportunity for Interdisciplinary Learning where pupils will be able to apply their knowledge of language in other subject areas and contexts. There will also be the opportunity for pupils to go on theatre and film trips and to take part in a Multi Lingual Debate at Heriot Watt University. From time to time there will be presentations from businesses, companies and individuals who will demonstrate the importance of a Modern languages qualification in the World of Work.

Homework

Regular homework is an essential part of the Modern Languages syllabus in S3/4 as it supports the learning in the class and allows the pupil to progress successfully to the next stage. Apart from the homework tasks given by the class teacher, all pupils are expected to memorise vocabulary and phrases 2/3 times a week at home and to use the recommended websites.

Further homework guidelines can be found on the school website.