



Modern Language

Learning another language is a fantastic way of broadening your horizons. To speak another language is to understand another culture, to know another history and to better appreciate your own linguistic and cultural contexts. It is also a great way of increasing your employability and puts you ahead of those candidates with similar ambitions who only speak one language.

The Modern Language Department in Castledeurg High School aims to provide a fun and stimulating learning environment in which pupils can effectively develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of a language and culture different to their own.

Why learn Spanish?

In our school, the language studied is Spanish. In all parts of the world, people have become aware of the growing presence and importance of Spanish. It is the native language of 21 countries worldwide and is spoken by about half the population in the Western Hemisphere. Spain is, of course, a popular holiday destination and it is the language which is taught in many of our local primary schools.

Here in Castledeurg High School all pupils in Years 8 – 10 study Spanish. Lessons are fun and interactive and pupils take part in many enjoyable activities throughout the year.

When you are starting Castledeurg High School, you don't need to worry that you will find Spanish too difficult; because the work will be set at a level to suit you and all pupils can achieve success at their own pace. You might be surprised at the end of the year to realise just how much you can do!

Spanish is also an option at GCSE and A Level. With recent changes to the GCSE specification, pupils find the course more appealing as they can study topics at their own level. Pupils have the opportunity to study a range of topics from three Contexts for Learning:

- Identity, Lifestyle and Culture;
- Local, National, International and Global Areas of Interest; and
- School life, Studies and the World of Work.

There are four units of assessment and each is worth 25% of the overall GCSE.

Unit	Assessment
Unit 1 : Listening	This is a written exam and pupils can choose either Foundation Tier or Higher Tier. Pupils will answer 12 questions, some in English and some in Spanish.
Unit 2 : Speaking	The speaking exam lasts between 7 – 12 minutes during which time pupils take part in two role-plays and a general conversation on two topics in Spanish.
Unit 3 : Reading	This is a written exam where pupils answer questions in English and Spanish as well as translating short phrases from Spanish into English. Pupils can choose either Foundation Tier or Higher Tier.
Unit 4 : Writing	This is a written exam which involves writing short responses in Spanish, translating from English into Spanish and an extended writing task. Pupils can choose either Foundation or Higher Tier.



