



Carleton Community High School

A Specialist Science with Mathematics School



GCSE MFL

Candidates are assessed in the four language skills:

- Listening 20% 30minutes Foundation tier / 40 minutes Higher tier
- Reading 20% 30 minutes Foundation tier / 50 minutes Higher tier
- Speaking 30% - 2 controlled assessments – 4-6 minutes each
- Writing 30% - 2 controlled assessments

Mock Exam: Friday 27th November pm (listening and reading papers)

Our exam board is AQA. Their website is very useful and there is a library of past examination papers for candidates to practice and develop their examination technique. www.aqa.org.uk

Another useful website is www.bbc.co.uk/gcsebitesize

A different approach to e-learning is to go to the web domain of the target language (**google.es – Spanish**) or (**google.fr – French**) and just surf looking at music, magazines, sports, news, fashion, whatever will keep you interested and will help you develop your reading and listening skills.

You can also use social media pages, for example, in Facebook you can like “**J’aime le Français**” or “**Me gusta el español**” and they will post daily messages or grammar points on your newsfeed.

Attendance is instrumental for success in MFL, so if for whatever reason you miss school, try to catch up with the work you missed. We have 4 lessons per fortnight so it is a rather tight schedule to cover the syllabus and develop exam techniques.

There is also a wide range of resources available in the GCSE folder of the VLE.

“I am learning” is also very useful with a variety of exercises that cover all the GCSE topics. There are some revision resources also available in PodCast.

Please read below a summary of the success criteria for grades A*-C.

Grade Guide		
C	B	A / A*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use three tenses • Check spellings and accents • Use correct gender and vary vocabulary • Use simple structures and expressions • Use opinions and give reasons • Simple negatives • Use expressions of time and frequency • Use at least 6 connectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use other tenses – conditional, imperfect... • Check verb endings • Use quantifiers • Ensure your adjectives agree • Use comparatives • Refer to others as well as yourself • Use a variety of negatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Express more complex sentences • Give reasons for your explanations • Use adverbs • Use your initiative – ask questions • Use relative and direct object pronouns • Use superlatives • Use subjunctives • Ensure content is interesting, well-structured and imaginative

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PARENTAL GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT:

- Please note that at this stage in the course candidates have already practised with past papers during the Year 10 summer exam, therefore the current grades give an accurate picture of their achievement. There will be a mock exam before the end of this term, using different past papers and this will allow us to measure progress with precision and accuracy.
- Candidates have already completed two pieces of controlled assessments (a speaking task and a writing task); now they have two more remaining tasks. We are currently preparing for a controlled writing assessment based on the topic of Home and Local area. **This will take place before Christmas.**

They will do a final speaking assessment at the end of the **spring term before the Easter holidays (9th, 10th and 11th March 2016)**. The topic will be from the context of Education and Future plans. In order to prepare for their speaking assessments, they can take advantage of new technology and use their mobile devices to record their assessment task and then, listen to themselves. This will aid their capacity to learn chunks of language. The final listening and reading papers will take place on **17th May 2016.**

- Short daily slots of revision are vital in order to make progress – 15 minutes will be sufficient as long as they do it every day. Understanding of grammatical structures and a wide range of vocabulary is the key to success. Candidates have been given a booklet with all the vocabulary covered by the specification and another booklet with skills required to meet grades A* - C.
- There are **Plus One sessions** after school on Wednesdays week B – we will focus mainly on exam techniques and how to improve performance in writing and speaking controlled assessments, aiming to address the individual needs of all students attending. Any candidate who has only made two levels of progress at this stage, should consider regular attendance to these sessions until the final exam in May. Please see programme on the next page.
- Candidates have also been issued with a homework book free of charge at the start of their GCSE course and there are several independent learning tasks assigned per week. It is important that they are completed on time. This will consolidate and reinforce their knowledge of vocabulary and phrases. Should the book be misplaced, they must purchase a new one. We appreciate your support on this matter.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact **Señora Romero** at school.

MFL Plus One Sessions 2015 -16

French GCSE:

Wednesday 11th November : techniques to succeed in listening & reading papers

Wednesday 25th November: preparing for writing controlled assessment

Wednesday 9th December: preparing plans for controlled assessment and memorisation technique

Wednesday 6th January: techniques to succeed in listening & reading papers

Wednesday 20th January: preparing for speaking controlled assessment

Wednesday 3rd February: techniques to succeed in listening & reading papers

Wednesday 17th February : preparing for speaking controlled assessment

Wednesday 2nd March : preparing plans for controlled assessment and memorisation technique

The remainder of the sessions we will be doing practice with exam papers and other listening and reading resources.