

What will Year 7 students learn and how many lessons will they have each week?

Year 7 students will learn Spanish for two lessons per week. We assume that students have no prior knowledge of Spanish. So, please do not worry if your child has not studied it before. If they have, then please rest assured that they will be appropriately challenged.

What will Year 7 students need to bring with them to lessons?

Students will need:

- An Exercise book (provided by the school in their first lesson)
- Homework booklet (provided by the school in their first lesson)
- Blue/Black biro/ink-pen
- Pencil
- Ruler

Will Year 7 students have homework in this subject? How much?

Homework is as important as your class work. Students will receive one piece of homework a week. This will either be:

- A written task
- An online task
- Vocabulary learning for a test (Spanish)
- Revision for assessments

How can I support my child at home with their learning in this subject?

Firstly, even if you do not speak another language, please do not worry. You can still help. Initially, it is great if you can please check their homework once they have finished. Please read through the task and check to see whether they have included the information requested. Have they completed the 'challenge' (extension) task? When it comes to revision for vocab tests, please test them by reading the English word and asking them to say the Spanish word back to you. When they are preparing for a longer written test, check to see if they have prepared a draft and they have been practising re-writing the draft. This will help them to memorise their work.

What opportunities are there for further study and careers in this subject?

Studying a language opens up tremendous opportunities for your child. Students may continue to study the language at GCSE and A Level. They can then continue to study Spanish at University or decide to start a new language. At University you typically spend a year abroad in a country where the language is spoken in order to reach a level of fluency. An additional language will be beneficial for any career. However, particular industries that may require a language include Travel and Tourism, Translation/Interpreting and MFL Teaching. Even speaking a little of a language could be the difference that gets them a job in future.

What languages do students study at Watling Academy?

Students study Spanish at Watling Academy. As the world's second most spoken language, learning Spanish will provide students with a wide range of countries that they can travel to and people they can communicate with in future. At Watling Academy we are keen to provide students with the skills they need to work in Milton Keynes and the wider world in future. The largest employer in Milton Keynes is currently the Spanish bank, Santander. Therefore, learning Spanish at Watling only enhances student's career prospects should they wish to remain in Milton Keynes in the future.

Are there any trips planned?

Organising trips abroad is something that we are passionate about. When current travel restrictions are lifted to and from certain countries and it is deemed safe to travel more freely, we will look to offer trips abroad.

What if my child speaks another language at home?

When the time is right, we look to support students who speak another language at home by letting them take the language as a GCSE. In order to do this, the language has to be offered as a GCSE subject by one of the exam boards. When it comes to the speaking exam, we may need your support in finding another adult who also speaks the same language, who can conduct the speaking part of the examination. This person must not be related to your child. Your child would need to be able to read and write in the language as well as speak and listen to it. As your child would not typically sit the exam until they are in year 10/11, this should hopefully give you enough time to work on their reading and writing skills should you wish to do so.