

15 March 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

Re: Modern Foreign Languages for Year 7 and Year 8 students.

I hope you are all keeping safe and well.

I am writing to update you on the College's Modern Foreign Languages Policy.

As you are aware, students in Year 7 and Year 8 at Okehampton College study 2 hours of French a week and 1 hour of German.

The Department for Education's expectation is that all schools increase the number of students who study a Modern Foreign Language at GCSE. In order for our students to gain not only the transferable skills that languages offer, but to have the opportunity to gain the EBacc qualification, **a Modern Foreign Language at GCSE will be compulsory for our current Year 7 and Year 8 students.**

We would like to give students a choice to study either French or German at GCSE, or continue with both languages. There will be a very small number of students for whom a GCSE in a Modern Foreign Language is not suitable, for example, if a student has not been studying French or German, but has been engaged in other learning in the College.

We hope that you find this update early on in your child's learning to be useful, and to prepare them for the pathway through to a GCSE in a Modern Foreign Language. In the meantime, should you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact me, on:

cwates@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk

Thank you very much for your continued support and for taking the time to read this policy update at what is a challenging time.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Wates
Director of Teaching and Learning, MFL.