

LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1) Do students have to have studied a language previously?

Yes, there is a lot of assumed knowledge from year 9 and 10 and students should have received a minimum of a C standard in year 10. However, there are always exceptions to the rules! If you are a background speaker in the language, please speak with the HOD Languages. Note that these language subjects are not designed for native speakers of the language.

2) Do students have a lot of homework?

In senior, students will be expected to do between 30mins – 1 hour of homework every week. Students are expected to constantly review classwork by completing tasks on Language Perfect as well as spend time on unassigned tasks like revising vocabulary, making flashcards etc.

3) How can parents help their child when they don't speak the language?

You can help your child with organisation, with establishing routines. You can quiz your child with vocabulary flash cards, saying the English words. Encourage your child to attend our lunch time student led clubs (Japanese club, French club, Spanish Club)

4) How many students per class?

It depends and changes from year to year. Senior classes do not have more than 26 students however generally language classes are smaller than this.

5) Do students get a textbook?

In Japanese students are issued with iTomo Senior textbook. There is no textbook for senior Spanish however student in French use French Skills & Practice book and Italian Pronti, Via! Student Book 3. All students in year 11 and 12 language subjects are also provided with a licence to Language Perfect.

6) How does studying French Extension benefit my child?

Our French Immersion students are accelerated through their senior French subjects and finish year 12 French as a year 11 student. This allows them to continue with French Extension in year 12 which would give them an additional 2 QCE points and a 7th subject that could be used in the calculation of their ATAR.

7) Can students travel overseas on exchange?

Prior to COVID – yes! These are uncertain times and we are unsure as to when we can start planning our next visit to our sister schools. In the meantime, we are staying connected virtually through Microsoft Teams and some Pen Pal arrangements.

8) Are there any other benefits for studying a language?

YES! Some universities add a bonus two rank points for university admission if you successfully complete a language to year 12. In many cases, you will also get credit for first year university language courses if you have studied a language to year 12.