



CAREERS & SKILLS ASSEMBLY

Modern Languages



Modern Languages at Boroughmuir and beyond

- ▶ You have the chance to learn French, German, Spanish, Mandarin and Italian
- ▶ Everyone studies at least one language until the end of S4
- ▶ From S3, you have the opportunity to pick up a second language
- ▶ From S5, you have the opportunity to take Highers and Advanced Highers in any of the languages you have studied
- ▶ German and French are the most widely spoken native languages in Europe (including English!)
- ▶ There are 29 French speaking countries in the world, 20 Spanish speaking countries and 7 German speaking countries
- ▶ Roughly 1 billion people speak Mandarin as their native language
- ▶ Being able to speak another language is the accepted norm in most European countries

What skills do you learn in Modern Languages?

- Apart from the ability to speak another language, you learn:
 - Literacy skills
 - Communication skills
 - Listening skills
 - Confidence and resilience
 - Problem solving skills
 - Memory skills
 - Appreciation of other cultures

All of these things are of benefit when studying other subjects, as well as being important skills for life beyond school

Other benefits of learning a language

- Improved ability to multi-task
- Improved attention span
- Improved knowledge of your own language
- More career opportunities
- Higher earning potential
- Being bilingual slows the effects of old age and can delay onset of diseases such as Alzheimer's and Dementia
- Being bilingual can speed up recovery from illnesses such as Strokes
- Travelling and living abroad gives you the chance to meet new people and make new friends

What kind of jobs/careers can you do that use Modern Languages skills?

- If you can speak a language, you have the option to live in a country where that language is spoken and do literally any job!
- In the UK, there are a lot of career options for people who can speak another language:
 - Interpreting
 - Translating
 - Journalism
 - Diplomatic work
 - International aid
 - Sales
 - Marketing
 - Engineering
 - Media
 - Business
 - Accounting
 - Banking
 - Tourism
 - Airlines
 - Teaching
 - Espionage

Where can you get more information?

- <https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/>
- <https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/>
- Universities' websites
- Guidance Teachers in school
- Languages Teachers in school