



WALTHAMSTOW SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Languages Faculty Information



Our vision: In the Languages Faculty we are courageous, confident, and excellent communicators. We aim to instil curiosity, open-mindedness and compassion for the world to be global citizens. As linguists we take responsibility for our learning journey, and we aspire to a lifelong love of languages and culture.

Our success as a faculty has been achieved principally by strong teamwork, effective planning, and the delivery of consistently high-quality teaching. We have very high expectations of our students in terms of motivation and effort. They respond extremely well to our teaching and have high expectations of themselves and of us.

We are very well supported by our Leadership Team and this has enabled us to be very well resourced with some of the best language teaching materials available. These include the Pearson *ActiveLearn* and *ActiveHub* subscriptions for KS3 and KS4 French and Spanish courses. Latin students use the *Suburani* course, and all have access to the online resources. All students have access to *Quizlet* in order to support them in vocabulary acquisition both at home and at school.

All of our classrooms are fully equipped with interactive whiteboards enabling staff to fully utilise a range of teaching materials.

All Students in Year 7 study either French or Spanish. Students with strong reading skills are also introduced to the ancient world and carry out an independent ancient world research project. In years 8 and 9 students build on this foundation, learning about the ancient world in more depth as well as meeting the basics of the Latin language. Able linguists are able to study both French and Spanish from Year 8. All three languages are offered at GCSE, and a very high percentage of our students opt to continue with their language in KS4. Group sizes are usually between 20 and 25.

Students are well supported throughout their language learning journey. For example, we offer extra-curricular activities such as lunch-time language clubs and after-school lunch-time support.

We offer a wide range of trips to all pupils including day trips to Boulogne-sur-Mer, residential trips to Rome, French/Spanish cinema workshops at the BFI, visits to the Spanish Institute in London, and trips to a tapas restaurant and French crêperie.

September 2025