



# Carleton Community High School

*A Specialist Science with Mathematics School*



## GCSE MFL

Candidates are assessed in the four language skills:

- Listening 20%
- Reading 20%
- Speaking 30% - 2 controlled assessments
- Writing 30% - 2 controlled assessments

Our exam board is AQA. Their website is very useful and there is a library of past examination papers for candidates to practice and develop their examination technique. [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

Another useful website is [www.bbc.co.uk/gcsebitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/gcsebitesize)

A different approach to e-learning is to go to the web domain of the target language (**google.es – Spanish**) or (**google.fr – French**) and just surf looking at music, magazines, sports, news, fashion, whatever will keep you interested and will help you develop your reading and listening skills.

You can also use social media pages, for example, in Facebook you can like “**J’aime le Français**” or “**Me gusta el español**” and they will post daily messages or grammar points on your newsfeed.

Attendance is instrumental for success in MFL, so if for whatever reason you miss school, try to catch up with the work you missed. We have 4 lessons per fortnight so it is a rather tight schedule to cover the syllabus and develop exam techniques.

There is also a wide range of resources available in the GCSE folder of the VLE.

“I am learning” is also very useful with a variety of exercises that cover all the GCSE topics.

Please read below a summary of the success criteria for grades A\* -C.

Grade Guide		
<b>C</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>A / A*</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use three tenses</li> <li>• Check spellings and accents</li> <li>• Use correct gender and vary vocabulary</li> <li>• Use simple structures and expressions</li> <li>• Use opinions and give reasons</li> <li>• Simple negatives</li> <li>• Use expressions of time and frequency</li> <li>• Use at least 6 connectives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use other tenses – conditional, imperfect...</li> <li>• Check verb endings</li> <li>• Use quantifiers</li> <li>• Ensure your adjectives agree</li> <li>• Use comparatives</li> <li>• Refer to others as well as yourself</li> <li>• Use a variety of negatives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Express more complex sentences</li> <li>• Give reasons for your explanations</li> <li>• Use adverbs</li> <li>• Use your initiative – ask questions</li> <li>• Use relative and direct object pronouns</li> <li>• Use superlatives</li> <li>• Use subjunctives</li> <li>• Ensure content is interesting, well-structured and imaginative</li> </ul>

#### PARENTAL GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT:

- Please note that at this stage in the course candidates have already practised with past papers during the Year 10 summer exam ,therefore the current grades give an accurate picture of their achievement. There will be a mock exam before the end of this term, using different past papers and this will allow us to measure progress with precision and accuracy.
- Candidates have already completed two pieces of controlled assessments (a speaking task and a writing task); now they have two more remaining tasks. We are currently preparing for a controlled writing assessment based on the topic of Home and Local area. **This will take place before Christmas.**

They will do a final speaking assessment at the end of the **spring term before the Easter holidays.** The topic will be from the context of Education and Future plans. In order to prepare for their speaking assessments, they can take advantage of new technology and use their mobile devices to record their assessment task and then, listen to themselves. This will aid their capacity to learn chunks of language. The final listening and reading papers will take place in May 2015.

- Short daily slots of revision are vital in order to make progress – 15 minutes will be sufficient as long as they do it every day. Understanding of grammatical structures and a wide range of vocabulary is the key to success. Candidates have been given a booklet with all the vocabulary covered by the specification and another booklet with skills required to meet grades A\* - C.
- Candidates have also been issued with a homework book free of charge at the start of their GCSE course and there are several independent learning tasks assigned per week. It is important that they are completed on time. This will consolidate and reinforce their knowledge of vocabulary and phrases. Should the book be misplaced, they must purchase a new one. We appreciate your support on this matter.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

**Señora Romero**