

St George's School
Harpenden

Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages

Application Pack for Candidate

Updated 15.01.2025



About St George's MFL Department



'To nurture a passion for and understanding of language learning in our pupils in order to prepare them for life in a global workplace.'

The study of Languages is an important, popular and integral part of the academic life of St George's School. Modern Foreign languages take-up is strong: Approximately two thirds of our students choose to study a language at GCSE.

There are currently 4 members of staff who contribute to Language teaching, all of whom are specialists. The Department has an enviable reputation for its excellent teaching and examination success. Students are well-respected, highly supported and encouraged, and praised for their endeavour.

Departmental Accommodation and Resources:

The Department relocated to a newly refurbished suite of 5 classrooms in Summer 2018 complete with language oral rooms and storage areas. The department have access to 3 full class sets of iPads. The department is well-resourced and is housed in a spacious office with space for all department members to work collaboratively.

Lunchtime Clubs:

There are some lunchtime clubs run by the department including a lunch time club with a specific focus on supporting the school's international and boarding community in their language learning, a Spanish culture club and numerous revision clubs supporting our GCSE candidates in their exam preparation.

About St George's MFL Department: Curriculum Outline



Key Stage 3

In years 7 pupils are taught French in mixed ability groups, having removed setting in the past year to encourage students of all abilities. The school operates on a two week timetable and Year 7 students benefit from 4 hours of French lessons per fortnight.

In Year 8 pupils begin their study of Spanish in parallel with their French. Spanish is afforded 4 hours per fortnight, and French 3 hours per fortnight.

In Year 9, students opt to study either Spanish or French and have 4 hours of lessons per fortnight where their skills are developed and pupils are taught the key skills necessary to progress at GCSE, should they choose it as a GCSE option. Throughout KS3, pupils follow a core syllabus, which is reviewed and tweaked each year to allow scope for creativity and individuality in staff delivery. In the past two years, the use of sentence builders has been introduced to many groups to aid pupils ability to learn chunks of vocabulary, with a heavy focus on sentence structures. Emphasis is placed on the development of the 4 key language learning skills, the building of self-confidence, the effective application of new grammar skills, and development of social and personal skills required for use of languages in the real world.



About St George's MFL Department: Curriculum Outline (*Cont'd*)



Key Stage 4

Our options process gives students free choice over their GCSEs and no students are obligated to pursue a language—that nearly two thirds of our students choose to do so is a credit to the department. French, German and Spanish groups run every year. Record numbers have opted for a Language from September 2024 and we will have two Spanish, two French and a German class running. All students currently follow Edexcel courses and receive 5 hours of teaching per fortnight for each language. We have numerous dual-linguists at GCSE.

Key Stage 5

At St George's we teach French A Level following the AQA specification. Results are consistently high and a number of students go on to pursue the subject at university. Students have 4 hours of teaching per week plus a weekly speaking session with a language assistant. German and Spanish are offered to our students but are taught at other local schools as part of our consortium arrangement.

About the Role



We require a well-qualified and enthusiastic MFL Teacher with excellent classroom skills and a desire to teach across the age and ability range.

We are looking for someone to teach French throughout Key stages 3 to 5, and preferably have the ability to teach Spanish at Key stage 3.

The successful candidate should be passionate about enabling students to achieve their very best, inspiring them through positive role-modelling and encouragement.

This post will suit ambitious ECTs or current members of the profession who want to join a school offering very high academic standards within a supportive, traditional and disciplined environment.

This is a full-time, permanent role commencing Summer / Autumn Term 2025.

Please refer to the job description and person specification in a separate document.



Benefits of Working at St George's School



Free Lunch



Employee Assistance Programme



Free Parking



Staff Well-being Programme



Use of School Gym



Favourable Children of Staff Admission
(Criterion 2 of School Admissions Criteria may apply)



Training and Support

How to Apply



To apply, please complete the online application form via MyNewTerm directed from www.stgeorges.herts.sch.uk/vacancies

We do not accept CVs or applications submitted through email.

Closing Date: Monday 27th January 2025 at 8:00 am

Interview Date: Tentatively week commencing 3rd February 2025

Applications will be shortlisted throughout the process and we may interview and close the advert early if we are in a position to recruit a suitable candidate. We therefore encourage interested candidates to apply early.

Selection Process

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend a selection day, which will include, as a standard, face-to-face interview and student interaction. In addition, candidates may be required to complete tasks specific to the job role.



Your Application



Personal Statement

You will need to include a personal statement in your application, detailing how you meet the specific requirements of this position and why you specifically want to work at St George's School.

Please provide specific examples to illustrate your knowledge, skills, and experience.

When writing your responses ensure to evidence additional aspects such as training, qualifications, together with your background and experience within the personal statement.



Your Application



References

Please provide details of two people to whom reference may be made:

- Preferred referees are your last two employers and you should provide their official organisation email address for us to contact.
- The first referee should normally be your present or most recent employer. If you are currently working in education this should be your Headteacher or equivalent person.
- If you are not currently working with children please provide a referee from your most recent employment involving children (if applicable).
- Please make sure your referees are aware of your application and that they are able to provide a swift turn round. References will be obtained prior to interview where applicable.



Important Information



Disclosure and Barring Service check (DBS)

St George's School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and visitors to share this commitment. This post will require a Full Enhanced, with List Checks, Disclosure and Barring Service check (DBS).

Online Searches

We are required to conduct online searches regarding shortlisted candidates as part of the selection and appointment process, in accordance with Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance, in order to identify any incidents or concerns which are publicly available online. By submitting and signing your application, you acknowledge that such searches will be conducted as part of the selection and appointment process.

Right to work in UK

We will require you to provide evidence of your right to work in the UK in accordance with the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006. By submitting and signing your application, you acknowledge that such evidence will need to be provided should an offer of employment be made.

