

Dear Parents and Carers,

At Avonbourne Academies, we teach both French and Spanish in KS3 and KS4. As such, your son or daughter has the opportunity to select a **preference** for the language they study when they join us in September 2023.

We will not be able to accommodate all students' preferences, therefore the following criteria will also be taken into consideration when placing students into French and Spanish classes:

- The language of study at primary school
- The language(s) spoken at home

Therefore, if your son or daughter has already started studying French or Spanish at primary level, then it is in their best interests to continue studying that language at secondary school. This will allow them to progress at a faster rate compared to starting a new language *ab initio*.

In addition, if your son or daughter is a fluent native speaker of French or Spanish and you would consider this one of your son or daughter's home languages, they will not be allocated that language to study. This will stretch those students who are already bilingual and challenge them for the duration of KS3.

Please be assured that native speakers of French, Spanish, Italian, Greek, Arabic, Russian, Portuguese etc. will be able to take a GCSE qualification in their home language in Year 11, whichever language they are allocated to study in KS3.

If you have any questions about languages at Avonbourne Academies, please direct them to Sophie Newnham at: sophie.newnham@avonbourneacademy.org.uk

Many thanks and kind regards,

Sophie Newnham

Assistant Principal and Director of MFL