



28th March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

At Avonbourne Academies, we are proud of our MFL provision and value the importance languages can play in your child's future. Languages contribute to the EBacc pathway at KS4, which is a suite of subjects highlighted to support a large range of careers. 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 2022.

We will aim to accommodate students' preferences; however, we may not be able to do this for all students. We will therefore use the following criteria taking into consideration the following when placing students into French and Spanish classes:

- The language of study at primary school
- The languages 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, Director of MFL at: sophie.newnham@avonbourneacademy.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

Sophie Newnham
Director of MFL