

Heathcote School and Science College



A Level Spanish Transition Guide 2018-2019



SPANISH A Level course

What is A Level Spanish?

Spanish A Level is taught over the course of two years. It is a linear exam and you will be examined in June of the second year in THREE papers:

What is studied at A Level?

A level is divided into four skills (Listening and Reading are in the same paper):

Paper 1: 40% of qualification- 80 marks; Listening, Reading and translation

Paper 2: 30% of qualification-120 marks; written response to works and translations

Paper 3: 30% of qualification- 72 marks; Speaking

The programme of study includes the following topics:

- The changes in the Spanish society (Social issues and trends)
- The political culture (through Media) and artistic culture (Festival, Music, Traditions) of the Spanish speaking world.
- Immigration and the Spanish multi society
- The Franco Dictatorship and the transition to democracy

There will also be some literary texts and movies that we will explore- a list of which can be found in the Edexcel specification that we are using.

We subscribe to Kerboodle (Nelson Thornes) online learning resources (which includes a variety of interactive activities and tests, study skill tips, video stimulus, an audio roleplay tool and research support) that work alongside our textbook. Students may work online during lessons in an ICT suite or independently outside lesson time.

There is great emphasis placed on the teaching and learning of grammatical aspects of the language. This gives you the opportunity to reach a higher level of fluency

During the first year of the course, you should supplement your time in school with approximately 6 hours of private study. You will be given work weekly and your performance will be monitored.

You will be encouraged to visit Spain and/or other Spanish-speaking countries in order to gain a more personal understanding of the culture and to practise the language in a natural environment. We will also organise a school trip to Spain that year to allow you to embrace the cultural aspect of the course as well as the linguistic side of it.

How will I increase my knowledge of Spanish?

*Read newspapers – go on-line and read the front pages of the Nationals:

www.elpais.es

www.elmundo.es

***Listen to the radio everyday**: **Radio Nacional de España** is available on the internet, you can listen to it whilst you work.

* **Practise speaking Spanish** whenever possible.

***Watch Spanish movies** over the holidays and during the school year.

*Write up class notes, whilst the lesson is still clear in your mind.

*Write down all new vocabulary and phrases in your vocab book.

*Learn new vocabulary regularly.

*Borrow Spanish language books

What do I need to do before September?

- *'Refresh'* your Spanish before coming back. Go to language websites on the internet to revise all the grammar and language covered at GCSE.
- As mentioned before, watch Spanish movies over the summer holidays
- Visit the Spanish centre in London online or go to see it: **Instituto Cervantés**. Here is the link:
<http://londres.cervantes.es/en/default.shtm>

Finally, there are many on line activities to choose from, many with corrections so you can judge how well you are doing. The following are some suggestions:

Get the [Duolingo App](#) for Spanish and practice every day

www.memrise.com

www.samlearning.com