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Modern Foreign Languages

St Nicholas Way, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 1EA

SCOLA | Your
Community
College

Languages at SCOLA

The Languages you can learn at SCOLA:

Arabic, Chinese, Czech, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Turkish and Urdu (new this year)

Learning a Language at SCOLA:

We promote a friendly, supportive atmosphere where the emphasis is on communication and making language learning an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

We help you to learn language relevant to the situations you are likely to find yourself in when abroad, by helping you to understand and speak the language with increased confidence.

The SCOLA language programme offers students the opportunity to gain a recognised qualification. The Accreditation body for Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese and Spanish is ASSET LANGUAGES – the Assessment Scheme for the DCSF Languages Ladder as part of the National Languages Strategy.

This scheme means that you will get credit for your language skills on a ladder of recognition from beginner level – BREAKTHROUGH STAGE (Level 1) to professional fluency – ADVANCED STAGE and possibly PROFICIENCY (Levels 5/6) in the 4 skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing.

These small graded steps provide short term motivational goals and each grade is assessed in relation to simple 'Can-do' statements for each skill.



Breakthrough Stage (Level 1)

Breakthrough stage is for complete beginners and the 4 skills

– Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing will be assessed towards the end of the course in class time.

There will be 3 short assessments for Listening, Reading and Writing, based on material covered during the year.

This material will cover the Can-do statements for Breakthrough Stage. There will also be a short speaking assessment conducted by the tutor.

On completing this stage, you will be able to use and understand a range of basic everyday expressions relating to personal details and needs. You will be able to use and have an understanding of simple grammatical structures and whilst not always accurate, your meaning will be clear. You will be familiar with the sound and writing system of the language.

Topic Areas and Language Functions

At Breakthrough Stage, the realisation of the language functions will involve:

- Taking part in simple social situations
- Giving simple information and opinions
- Asking and answering simple questions
- Describing (colour ,size, location, possession, appearance)
- Following/giving simple instructions
- Expressing ability
- Using numbers and expressing quantity
- Expressing time

These functions will be used within the following vocabulary areas:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ● Personal Information | ● Home and Surroundings |
| ● Studying | ● Free Time and Entertainment |
| ● Working | ● Health |
| ● Shopping and Services | ● Eating and Drinking |
| ● Holidays and Travelling | |



Preliminary Stage

Preliminary stage follows Breakthrough Stage and the 4 skills – Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing will be assessed towards the end of the course in class time. There will be 3 short assessments for Listening, Reading and Writing, based on material covered during the year. This material will cover the Can-do statements for Preliminary Stage. There will also be a short speaking assessment conducted by the tutor.

On completing this stage, you will be able to use, adapt and understand learned language relating to a range of predictable everyday matters. You will be able to maintain a simple conversation, read clear text and write simple texts. You will be able to recognise the differences between present, past and future events and be familiar with simple forms of the verb tenses.

Topic Areas and Language Functions

At Preliminary Stage, the realisation of the language functions will build on Breakthrough Stage by adding range/variety of language through:

- Taking part in social situations and repairing communication
- Giving information and opinions
- Asking and answering questions
- Describing
- Asking for/giving opinions
- Following/giving instructions
- Asking for things
- Expressing ability
- Using numbers and expressing quantity
- Expressing time
- Agreeing/Disagreeing
- Comparing
- Giving reasons
- Expressing preferences
- Making/responding to suggestions
- Expressing obligation/lack of obligation
- Expressing feelings and emotions
- Talking about Past/Present/Future

These functions will be used within the following vocabulary areas:

- Personal Information
- Studying
- Working
- Shopping and Services
- Holidays and Travelling
- Home and Surroundings
- Free Time and Entertainment
- Health
- Eating and Drinking



Intermediate Stage (Level 3)

Intermediate stage follows Preliminary Stage and you will be able to decide (with tutor guidance) which of the 4 skills – Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing you wish to be assessed towards the end of the course. There will be 3 assessments for Listening, Reading and Writing, based on material covered during the year. This material will cover the Can-do statements for Intermediate Stage. There will also be a Speaking Assessment conducted by the tutor.

On completing this stage, you should be comfortable with a range of tenses and be able to listen to and read authentic texts on familiar matters. You will be able to maintain a conversation and write on familiar matters and predictable situations using a range of simple language.

Topic Areas and Language Functions

At Intermediate Stage, the realisation of the language functions will build on the specifications at Preliminary Stage by adding length and complexity to the language used with a greater range of areas.

- Taking part in social situations and repairing communication
- Giving information and opinions
- Asking and answering questions
- Describing
- Asking for/giving and justifying opinions
- Following/giving instructions
- Asking for things
- Expressing ability
- Using numbers and expressing quantity
- Expressing time
- Agreeing/disagreeing
- Comparing
- Asking for/giving reasons
- Expressing preferences/taking turns in a conversation
- Making/responding to suggestions
- Expressing obligation/lack of obligation
- Expressing feelings and emotions
- Talking about Past/Present/Future
- Expressing degrees of certainty and doubt
- Talking about (im)possibility and (im)probability
- Giving advice and warnings

These functions will be used within the following vocabulary areas:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ● Personal Information | ● Home and Surroundings |
| ● Studying | ● Free Time and Entertainment |
| ● Working | ● Health |
| ● Shopping and Services | ● Eating and Drinking |
| ● Holidays and Travelling | |



Advanced Stage (Level 4 - 5)

Advanced stage follows Intermediate Stage and you will be able to choose (with tutor guidance) which of the 4 skills – Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing you wish to be assessed in towards the end of the course. The assessments for Listening, Reading and Writing will be based on material covered during the year. This material will cover the Can-do statements for Advanced Stage. There will also be a Speaking Assessment conducted by the tutor.

On completing this stage, you should be comfortable with a range of tenses and a variety of registers. You should be able to understand the majority of what you hear and read in the target language. You should be able to communicate and write confidently, using a wide range of more complex structures and vocabulary. You will be able to make references to the culture and society of countries/communities where the language is spoken.

Language Functions

At Advanced Stage, the realisation of the language functions will build on the specifications at Intermediate Stage by adding length and complexity to the language used within a greater range of areas and contexts.

- Maintaining and managing communication
- Using conversational techniques
- Giving information (detailed and general)
- Describing
- Asking for/giving and justifying/responding to opinions
- Managing ideas
- Following/giving instructions
- Agreeing/disagreeing
- Comparing/contrasting
- Asking for/giving reasons
- Highlighting information
- Evaluating options/adapting performance to context
- Persuading
- Making/responding to suggestions
- Expressing obligation/lack of obligation
- Expressing and responding to attitudes, feelings and emotions
- Talking about Past/Present/Future
- Expressing intention
- Predicting/offering
- Handling narrative
- Expressing degrees of certainty and doubt
- Talking about (im)possibility and (im)probability
- Giving advice
- Talking about conditions and consequences
- Talking about ability



ASSET

What are the benefits of ASSET LANGUAGES?

- ASSET LANGUAGES allows you to concentrate on the language skills you want – Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing are assessed separately
- ASSET LANGUAGES builds your language learning confidence by providing step- by- step recognition of achievement.
- ASSET LANGUAGES qualifications are recognised and transferable – they are worth something and can be compared on the National Qualifications Framework to other awards

Other qualifications

This year we are offering GCSEs in Chinese, French, German, Italian , Japanese, Spanish and Urdu. AS in French and Spanish and A2 in Spanish is also available. For those interested in doing our AS courses, students need to attend an interview.

The remainder of our courses are non-accredited and we have some conversation classes in French and Spanish, a Spanish for Holidays class and intensive Italian and Spanish on Saturday mornings.

