



BELFAST MODEL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Principal: Ms P Stuart, B. Ed, PQH NI, M. Ed

31st August 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

RE. Key Stage 3 Modern Languages

I am writing to inform you that we have made some recent changes to our provision for Modern Languages in Belfast Model School for Girls.

Students in Years 8 - 10 will now study one language throughout their Key Stage 3 - French or Spanish. Students who are in the nurturing group will study additional literacy in lieu of French or Spanish.

This decision is made in the best interests of our learners, especially those students in Year 9 and 10, who have been subjected to two periods of school closure and long periods of remote learning. The difficulties presented to staff and students to make the usual progress in a modern language, particularly in the skills of talking and listening, have been significant.

We have endeavoured, as far as is possible, that Year 10 students will continue to study their language of choice. Some Year 9 students may be beginning a new language, but we are confident that this will not in any way disadvantage them in their language journey, given the disruption to their learning during Year 8.

We will continue to offer students the opportunity to study French or Spanish at GCSE and A Level. These recent changes will not impinge on that offer and as always we will be led by student choice.

I thank you for your continued support and I am looking forward to the new school year. I am hopeful that it will be without interruption or closure.

Working together we can secure 'Achievement for All'.

Yours faithfully,

Paula Stuart
Principal

