

To: Parents of Pupils in Year 7

**Dear Parents** 

Every year we aim to provide the best possible language provision for the pupils coming in to Year 7. In view of the different courses in our feeder schools and the range of ability of our pupils, this can be quite a challenge. This year we are trialling a system where two courses are offered and the first is Spanish. This is aimed at all pupils with a reasonable linguistic capability and interest, whether or not they have studied Spanish previously. It would enable them, if they wished, to pursue a GCSE course in the future. It would also provide a solid foundation through grammatical awareness and general techniques for learning languages to add French to the curriculum in Year 8.

The second option is a language awareness course, which would also include some simple and practical French. This is aimed at pupils who find languages quite demanding and would benefit from a slower pace and additional help. If pupils chose this option, they would also have two periods of extra Maths and English each week. With this choice, it would be more difficult but not impossible to choose the more rigorous French course in Year 8. All Year 7 pupils will start with the Spanish course until half term in October. A decision will then be made as to the best course of action for each child. From half term onwards, both courses will run concurrently.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Twomey Mrs Jepson