



# Queen Mary's Grammar School

Headmaster: R J Langton, M A

May 2023

To the parents of Year 7 students,

## Year 8 Modern Foreign Languages 2023-24

Dear Parent/Guardian,

When your child moves into Year 8 in September, there will be some minor changes in the curriculum. This will include the teaching of separate sciences, which will mean slight changes in the allocation of time to other subjects. There is also (as outlined below) an option to make with regards to the Modern Foreign Language studied.

Our Curriculum Policy states that only a Modern Foreign Language started in Year 7 can be continued through to GCSE. As part of our commitment to the *Confucius Classroom* and *Mandarin Excellence Programmes*, all students began Mandarin at the start of Year 7 alongside a European language (either French or Spanish).

The demands of the *Mandarin Excellence Programme* are such that we need to make extra curriculum provision for this pathway, alongside the additional extra time that pupils are expected to give to the subject outside of timetabled lessons. We also feel that, with the demands of current GCSE specifications, we need to ensure enough time is allocated at Key Stage 3 for students to focus on only one core language, ahead of those final assessments at the end of Year 11.

We are therefore asking the students to make a choice. For their core language, they can either:

1. Continue with their European language (French or Spanish), with an aim to completing their GCSE at the end of Year 11
2. It is expected that all students that are currently studying Mandarin as part of the *Mandarin Excellence Programme* continue with that option. *MEP* is only available to students that are already signed up to it and have already undertaken the extra lessons required.
3. Continue with Mandarin to completion of the GCSE by the end of Year 11 (non-MEP pathway)

We would like you to consider the possibilities carefully with your child and to [complete a Microsoft Form](#) (click on the link)

Or scan the QR code to access the Form:



You will be asked to indicate which option your child would like to follow next year. If a particular MFL subject is over-subscribed, we reserve the right to look at previous pupil performance in that subject to inform any decision-making over option allocations.

Please complete the form online by Monday 12 June. If you would like further information on this matter, please contact the school on [enquiries@qmg.merciantrust.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@qmg.merciantrust.org.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Michael Lax  
Deputy Headteacher



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