



4 November 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Expression of Interest

We would like to give you the opportunity to express an interest in entering your child into an additional examination for a foreign language for the summer series in 2021 that they currently do not study in school. For example, if your child's mother tongue is Arabic they can be entered for the Arabic GCSE examination **in addition** to their other subjects. A student can be entered for a language examination even if they have chosen to not study a language at GCSE with us.

The languages which have a GCSE examination with the accredited examination boards that we are registered with are as follows:

AQA GCSE

Bengali, Chinese, French, German, Hebrew (Modern), Italian, Panjabi, Polish, Spanish, Urdu

Edexcel GCSE

Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Greek, Gujarati, Hebrew (Biblical), Italian, Japanese, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Turkish, Urdu

OCR GCSE

Greek (Classical), Latin

CIE IGCSE

As a 1st language

Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Korean, Malay, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Thai, Turkish

As a 2nd language

Afrikaans, Chinese, Hindi, Urdu

As a foreign language

Arabic, Chinese, Dutch, Indonesian

Please research the specification before making a decision and note that AQA, Edexcel and OCR offer the languages as a foreign language, whereas CIE offer some as a 1st (home spoken) language, some as 2nd and some as foreign. All specifications are available on the examination board websites (linked above).

As with any language examination, it is important that they are able to **read, speak, listen and write** the language with confidence.

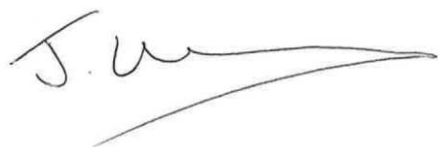
It is important to understand that Maiden Erlegh School in Reading is **not** responsible for the tuition or preparation of your child for the examination but we will be able to organise and

accommodate your child on the day of the examination(s). As this would be an additional GCSE qualification to their curriculum, we would enter them as a private candidate and you would be expected to pay the fee for the examination board and the associated costs. The exam board fee varies between the different examination boards and different languages, but is somewhere between £38 and £65. We would also need to add on any additional costs that we would incur, such as invigilator costs, and this would depend on when the examination falls and if we need separate invigilation to facilitate it. The total cost for the language that you choose will be confirmed to you before you commit to paying. This examination would then be included within your child's examination timetable. If your child is in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant then this could potentially be used to partially fund it – please speak to Y11 Pupil Premium Champion, Ms D Headley, to explore this further.

Whilst the examination board that we use for French and Spanish is **AQA**, you can choose from any of the boards that offer the relevant language. It is important to know which board your child will be using when you are considering revision guides or tutors after school. Please note that there are to be no spoken examinations in summer 2021. Students will be given a spoken endorsement (Pass/Merit/Distinction) by their teacher. Therefore, we may have to give an N/A against the spoken endorsement aspect of the qualification. This will be explored with you in more detail should you wish to go ahead.

If you wish your child to be considered for entry into an additional examination in one of the listed languages in this letter, please return the reply slip below to **the class tutor** by **Wednesday 18 November 2020**. If we have enough interest, then we will write to you again to detail the total cost of your request. We would then need this amount to be paid before we can enter the student into the examination.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Winstanley
Curriculum Leader MFL

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Name

Tutor Group

Language to be entered

Examination Board

- ☐ I understand that I am responsible for the tuition and preparation of my child for this examination.
- ☐ I understand that Maiden Erlegh School in Reading will enter my child for the examination as a private candidate.
- ☐ If I decide to go ahead I agree to pay the fee which will be confirmed to me in the next letter. Once paid, this will be **fully non-refundable**.
- ☐ I understand that if Maiden Erlegh School in Reading cannot source a member of staff to conduct the speaking examination, then I could be asked to find someone (not a relative) and pay any associated cost for them.

Signed

Date
