

Subject:	Spanish
Level:	GCSE
Awarding Body:	EDEXCEL
Specification Code:	There is a new specification for the 2024 GCSEs in languages. They are drafts and EDEXCEL is currently awaiting accreditation by OFQUAL. The GCSE is a two-tiered exam with entry at either Foundation or Higher Level.
Awarding Body website:	https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/spanish-2024.html
ASSESSMENT:	
Controlled Assessment	0%
When will it be taken	N/A
Examination	100 %
When will it be sat?	May / June at the end of Year 11
TIERS:	
Higher Tier Grades:	5 to 9
Foundation Tier Grades:	1 to 5
Subject Leader:	Mrs G Hall
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Why Opt for Spanish?

Languages can open doors of opportunity and change lives forever.

When you speak another language, you can be somebody else, you can live another life.

There's no better way to truly understand another culture and nothing broadens the mind like foreign travel.

GCSE Spanish will give you a skill for life. It's much more than just an option.

It's exciting to be able to speak Spanish and it is simply a matter of practice.

The Spanish teachers at Pensby love what they do. They are enthusiastic and very experienced. They know what it takes to help you reach your potential.

The proposed course is well designed enabling you, with hard work, to have a good degree of fluency in Spanish by the time you finish the GCSE.

Useful facts:

Linguists have the lowest rate of unemployment because employers value their skill. It helps their business grow.

Linguists usually get paid up to a fifth more if they use their skills at work.

Your brain gets smarter when you try to learn a new language.

Learning a language keeps your brain healthy.

Once you know how one language works learning the next is usually easier.

Opt for GCSE Spanish and...

Add an international dimension to your choice of GCSE subjects.

Learn a range of transferable skills which are useful in a wide range of careers.

Create greater opportunity for yourself to earn more and work abroad in a foreign company, or for companies in the UK with international links.

Choose to go on a Spanish trip which tend to be offered every two years.

Use Spanish as your 'skill' for your Duke of Edinburgh Award.

What will I learn?

You will be working to improve your skills in Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing through the six thematic contexts:

My personal world

Lifestyle and well being

My neighbourhood

Media and Technology

Studying and my future.

Travel and Tourism

Within these contexts there is a range of topic areas:

family	friends	relationships	equality
physical well-being	mental well-being	food and drink	sports
places in town	shopping	transport	the natural world
environmental issues	social media and gaming	future opportunities (e.g. work, travel)	school
music	TV and film	accommodation	tourist attractions

You will also improve your understanding of how Spanish works through the study of Spanish phonics and grammar and expand your knowledge of vocabulary through a set list of words at both foundation and higher level. Other activities include regular homework, Spanish music, mini video clips to immerse you in Spanish language and culture, games to help make learning fun, poetry and short stories, a cooking experience and sampling famous Spanish dishes, even watching Spanish plays and films.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment Objectives

Students must:	% in GCSE
AO1 Understand and respond to spoken language in speaking and in writing	35%
AO2 Understand and respond to written language in speaking and in writing	45%
AO3 Demonstrate knowledge and accurate application of the grammar and vocabulary prescribed in the specification	20%
Total	100%

Breakdown of Assessment Objectives

Component	AO1 %	AO2 %	AO3 %	Total for all Assessment Objectives
1: Speaking	15%	2%	8%	25%
2: Listening and understanding	20%	0%	5%	25%
3: Reading and understanding	0%	25%	0%	25%
4: Writing	0%	18%	7%	25%
Total for GCSE	35%	45%	20%	100%

There are four examinations taken at either foundation or higher tier: Speaking, Listening, Reading, and Writing.

Future Opportunities

People with language skills and knowledge are highly thought of in the modern world. They stand out as talented and successful people, with broad and exciting horizons. Taking GCSE Spanish means you will:

- Be able to study AS and A2 Spanish courses.
- Add an extra dimension to your personal skills profile, impressing those who read your CV.
- Be in a stronger position to get a job in companies with international links or improve employability if you would like to work abroad.

Further information

Pupils are expected to have a 'can do' attitude, to work consistently hard in class, mindful of including GCSE success criteria in class and homework, and of course, to behave maturely. There is a clear expectation that learners also use their own time to regularly quiz themselves on vocabulary and grammar or to read over and listen again to texts from their on-line course book in order to help consolidate learning and progress. We also recommend

using www.gcsepod.com to improve listening skills and pronunciation as well as the use of www.duolingo.com and www.quizlet.com. [bitesize/spanish](#) and www.gcsepod.com to improve listening skills and pronunciation as well as the use of www.duolingo.com and www.quizlet.com and our latest resource called The Language Gym www.uk.language-gym.com

Next steps:

- Talk to your teacher about taking GCSE Spanish if you are unsure.
- Talk to students who are already doing or who have done the course.
- Visit the EDEXCEL website (<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/spanish-2024.html>) for more information about what you will be studying and how you will be assessed.

Remember you don't have to be a genius to do well in this subject. It is not about understanding complex formulas and doing lots of analysis. You don't even have to write long essays.

It is about committing to regular practice and learning, doing your homework well, being mindful of what the examiners will be looking for, and trying your best in class. The extra effort is well worth it. You will have a new talent, a skill for life.