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Partnership
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ar Gyfer Addysg Gychwynnol I Athrawon

PGCE MFL Welcome Pack: 2023-4

Dear PGCE MFL student,

Welcome to the PGCE Secondary MFL programme and many congratulations on gaining your place! I am really looking forward to working with you during this academic year.

In readiness for the busy and exciting year ahead, please complete the tasks detailed below which have been designed to help you prepare for the course. **Please complete them by Friday 1st September 2023**

1) CONFIRM YOUR PLACE

When you receive this pack, email our programme support office to confirm that you will starting with us in September 2023 ccprogadmin@cardiffmet.ac.uk

2) SELF ASSESS YOUR SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE

- ✓ **Please have a read through the WJEC A Level specification for the language you have applied to teach.** Read through the **Grammar requirements** (Appendix A) specifically and **self-assess** how much you know about each of the grammar points.

French: <https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/w2pddqxs/wjec-gce-french-spec-from-2016-e-04-12-2019.pdf> (Appendix A, pp. 29 – 31)

Spanish: <https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/w2pddqxs/wjec-gce-french-spec-from-2016-e-04-12-2019.pdf> (Appendix A, pp. 29 – 31)

German: <https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/k0teon4q/wjec-gce-german-spec-from-2016-e-04-12-2019.pdf> (Appendix A, pp. 29 – 31)

Read through the list and be honest with yourself. When you begin the PGCE MFL programme you will be expected to plan and teach lessons on a range of topic areas, so it's best that you are aware of your knowledge 'gaps' now.

Keep updating your language skills by listening and reading in the target language(s) and undertaking grammar exercises. Your language knowledge must be accurate in order to teach it effectively and clearly to pupils. A good grammar book will be invaluable. The course 'Upgrade your French/German/Spanish' by Routledge is an excellent 30 day course.

Harrap's Grammar Revision guides are simply presented (others are available)

Mille et Un Points (French)
Kernpunkte (German)
Punto por Punto (Spanish)

- ✓ **Access the past papers for the WJEC specification.** Print off copies and complete them yourself to check your current knowledge of GCSE, AS and A Level French, Spanish or

German. In order to access these, go to the [WJEC](#) website and use the drop-down menus to find GCSE / AS / A Level and the relevant language.

As you work through the papers, **think about and write down some misconceptions or difficulties that you think pupils at GCSE or A Level may have with some of the questions.**

Consider the following questions:

- Why do you think certain skills are more difficult than others?
- Which skills are the most challenging for our learners?
- What are your thoughts on the set films for AS and set books for A2? How inclusive/diverse are they?
- How different or not is the specification from the GCSE's and A levels which you followed?

Please could you also bring your thoughts and ideas with you in September?

3) DO SOME READING

E.g. dip into the following:

- Capel, S., Leask, M. and Turner, T. (2019) *Learning to teach in the secondary school*, 7th edn. London: Routledge.
- Kyriacou, C. (2009) *Effective teaching in schools: theory and practice*, 3rd edn. Cheltenham: Nelson Thornes.
- Muijs, D. and Reynolds, D. (2017) *Effective teaching: evidence and practice*, 4th edn. London: Sage.

Read about MFL teaching, e.g.

- Pachler, N. (2014) *Learning to teach foreign languages in the secondary school : a companion to school experience*. Fourth Edition. New York: Routledge
- Ann Swarbrick, Patricia Driscoll and Ernesto Macaro (2014) *Debates in Modern Languages Education*. Taylor and Francis. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315856551>.
- Smith, S. and Conti, G. (2016) *The Language Teacher Toolkit*
- Macaro, Ernesto & Woore, Robert. (2021). *Debates in Second Language Education*. New York:Routledge

4) EXPLORE SOME WEBSITES / PODCASTS

Check out these website recommendations; they will be very helpful to you during the programme.

- [Welsh Joint Education Committee \(WJEC\)](#) GCSE and A Level resources
- [Curriculum for Wales](#) Information about the new Curriculum for Wales; scroll down to find information and links on Languages, Literacy and Communication
- Blogs on MFL methodology e.g. [The Language Gym](#) Ideas of MFL teaching and strategies for grammar or Steve Smith's [Language Teacher Toolkit](#).

You could also join the “Teaching MFL in Wales”, “Primary MFL” and “MFL Teachers” Facebook groups for suggestions on resources and teaching (you can just search key terms in the search bar) or on Twitter look for the #mfltwitterati.

Good luck with these tasks! See you in September.

Kerry