

“But everybody speaks English, anyway!”

Actually, 75% of the world’s population doesn’t!

As globalisation expands further, so do opportunities in the world of work; Polyglots - people who are able to speak more than one language are highly valued; improving job flexibility, prospects and salary. Languages are an asset no matter what the trade or profession your career path takes you and this opens up opportunities whether we are applying for an apprenticeship, working in industry or areas of higher study. Employers value the ability to communicate with others and this can help to create better relationships with clients and/or staff.

Many of us know that studying a foreign language improves our literacy and increases our vocabulary in English and furnishes us with the skills to communicate with others who may or may not speak our mother tongue. However, studying other foreign languages offers so many other skills and opportunities such as harnessing our adventurous spirit; giving us the confidence to explore and appreciate other cultures as well as fully experiencing new travel destinations.

In addition, learning a language provides us with a range of other skills such as flexibility of employment; global mobility; global communication; self expression and greater access to your hobbies. The skills used to learn a language improve brain function and once you have learned one language, learning another (and another...) becomes even easier.

At Newark Academy we offer a range of languages delivered by a committed, enthusiastic team whose passion for sharing and experiencing different cultures and languages cannot be quashed! In response to parents’ and students’ requests we are excited about offering 3 languages in Year 7; French; German and Spanish, giving students the opportunity to experience and develop learning language skills and gain knowledge of a variety of cultures. Students practise four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) in all 3 languages and then specialise in one of these languages in Year 8 and Year 9. Students make progress through vocabulary and grammar acquisition and application; we encourage students to practise their languages in many ways and games are often part of the classroom experience. We encourage students to continue their language learning at GCSE and A Level; thus allowing them to achieve dreams of travel and work opportunities.

In addition we promote the development of students’ own community languages and many students who speak other language(s) at home achieve an additional qualification.