What do you particularly enjoy about studying this subject?

My favourite thing has been learning about Hispanic history and culture in detail. I’m also enjoying completing the Independent Research Project as part of speaking lessons.

How much work is involved? (hours in lessons / outside of lessons)

There are 5 hours of class time each week, plus a 45 minute speaking lesson. Extra tutorials are around 45 minutes. Weekly homework normally takes a few hours to complete. In terms of independent study, it is recommended that you spend 5 hours on this a week (this can consist of reading articles and making revision resources etc).

If you studied the subject at GCSE how different is studying it at A Level/BTEC Level 3?

Compared to GCSE Spanish, much more independent work is required of you in order to achieve the top grades. You are introduced to more advanced grammar and a wider range of vocabulary so more revision is necessary. You also become able to speak Spanish in a spontaneous way.

How are you assessed and how regularly?

In Year 12, there are weekly grammar/tenses tests which establish great knowledge and understanding of the language. There are also termly mock assessments in all 3 components of the course which give you an opportunity to practice for your final exams.

What support have you received and is support available if you don’t understand something?

There are weekly ‘support’ and ‘stretch and challenge’ tutorials which aid your understanding of class work. Dan and Sandra are always available if you’re stuck and reply quickly to any emails.

Have you received careers support and what are your future plans?

The career team at Carmel are very helpful in explaining different pathways to take whilst advising the best choice for you. I would like to study Dance at university work in the industry or teach.

Visit our website for more information about the A Level Spanish course.