



## **SPANISH DEPARTMENT**

Spanish language is offered to all students from Years 8-14. We are a thriving and popular subject with almost 100 pupils currently in Yr 12. We pride ourselves on excellent academic results, above the Northern Ireland Grammar School average for both GCSE and A Level, with a 97% A\*-C pass rate at GCSE and 100% at A2 (of which 50% were A\*-A grades). Our success in public examinations is indicative of the quality of teaching in the department and our dedicated staff, who enthuse and inspire pupils with a love of the language.

There are 3 full-time and 2 part-time teachers. In addition to this, a Spanish assistant works with smaller groups at GCSE level and takes all Year 13 and 14 pupils for conversational classes once or twice a week. The department is well resourced, and each classroom is equipped with whiteboards, a computer, data projector and Apple TV. There is a Year 8 Spanish Club which takes place once a week and a theatre production visits the school to perform a play in Spanish to our Year 10 pupils. In addition to this, there is a GCSE+ Club to extend the ability of the most able who are considering continuing with the language at A' Level.

We have had success representing the school in the Opportunity Europe Quiz, organised by the European Commission, having gained Joint Second position nationwide. Other opportunities for pupils include the Spanish debating team, which has enhanced pupils' skills and linguistic abilities.

Our aim in the Spanish department is to give every pupil a positive and engaging learning experience through a variety of teaching methods and activities. As a close-working department, we have proved to be very successful in ensuring that we maximise every pupils' potential and promote language learning.

### **Blended Learning**

The Spanish department in tandem with the whole school community are committed to developing a blended approach to teaching and learning, given the current situation of teaching through a pandemic. To this end, the successful candidate will be required to be cognizant of the digital platforms currently used by Thornhill College. The Spanish department uses Office 365, Google Classroom and Microsoft Teams for the bulk of teaching and learning but many other emerging technologies are encouraged and welcomed for both staff and student enrichment. It is hoped that the successful candidate will be of assistance in helping the Spanish department to further develop ICT as an integral part of the learning process for students.

***(Please ensure that in your application form, you address the criteria mentioned in the job advertisement.)***

**March 2021**