



Penryn
College

"Achieving through Challenge"

September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer(s)

Additional Language GCSE Qualifications

I know that many of our students have knowledge of a language in addition to English, which is a fantastic asset and something we would like to capitalise on to help them succeed. As someone who grew up with both Swedish and English, I know first-hand how great, but also challenging, it can be to have this additional language skill.

Where possible, we support our students who have an additional language to gain a formal GCSE accreditation in it, and there are currently a wide range of different languages offered at GCSE by the different exam boards.

Most languages are assessed by four exams in listening, reading, writing and speaking, and from past experience we have found that students tend to do best if they take the exams in the summer of Year 9 or 10.

In order to help gauge the level of language required, I have sent out GCSE reading papers and mark schemes in the relevant language to a number of families, and I am hoping that this letter will reach those I have unintentionally missed.

If I haven't been in touch with you previously and you think this is something that would be of benefit to your child, please get in touch via e-mail (dribenfors@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk) so I can look at what support we can put in place to help them work towards this.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully

Dan Ribenfors
Head of MFL



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