



20 January 2012

Dear Parents and Carers

**Immersion teaching in French**

As part of our drive to ensure our most academic students gain access to the top universities in Britain, we are launching an exciting opportunity for students to immerse themselves in the French language whilst at school from next year.

Students will be taught a variety of subjects in French so that they rapidly develop their language skills as well as learning their other subjects. This group of students will be taught Mathematics, ICT, PSHE and Religious Studies in French. They will be taught by Mrs Gould, assistant headteacher, who is a fluent French speaker and who currently teaches Mathematics and ICT. In addition, the selected students will continue to study French as a discrete subject by another member of the Language Department. They will have a French-speaking tutor and one-to-one speaking practice sessions. This will equate to up to 50% of their timetable being delivered in French.

Numerous studies have shown the success of this technique. Students quickly become extremely familiar with French and are able to sit their French GCSE early. They can then make an early start to French AS and A2 level. In the meantime, their other subjects continue as normal – evidence suggests that students often do better in the subjects delivered in French than they would have if they had studied in English. We will, however, monitor this closely and offer extra Mathematics lessons in English should the need arise. At Key Stage 4, students will be encouraged (but not obliged) to take Spanish as an option, as they will find this very easy as a result of their French immersion.

Top universities look extremely favourably on a language spoken fluently. Students who have been immersed in French will often take up to four further subjects at A level, so their choice of university study and further career remains wide open.

You know that I am committed to making EEHS the number one school in Surrey, and a school where outstanding opportunities exist for students; I am delighted to say that EEHS is the only school in Surrey to offer language immersion, and one of the few state schools in England to do so. Please could you let me know if you are interested in your child being a part of this programme by filling out the reply slip below? I will then be happy to send you full details so that you and your child are able to make an informed choice. You are not committing yourselves at this point. Numbers will be limited to one group, so please register your interest as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Alex Russell  
[russella@eehs.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:russella@eehs.surrey.sch.uk)

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I am interested in finding out further details about Immersion in French.

Name of child: ..... Form: .....

Signature: ..... Date: .....

email address: .....

*Please return to the attention of Mr Russell at reception*