



12 January 2024

Dear Students of Year 11 and Parents and Carers of Year 11 Students,

'Home Language' GCSE entries for Year 11

At Rooks Heath we offer 'home language' GCSEs in a range of languages, allowing students who are fluent in another language to gain an extra GCSE by sitting exams at the end of Year 11. In the past, home languages have included Arabic, French, German, Gujarati, Italian, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Urdu, although other languages may be available. Unfortunately, there are no GCSE qualifications for some languages, for example Albanian, Dutch, Lithuanian, Romanian, and Tamil.

Students entering a home language would not be 'taught' for the language in lessons. Therefore, students must be relatively fluent in all four exams in the language they are entering for:

- Reading
- Writing
- Listening
- Speaking

These exams would take place in May in the same exam season as all other exams.

Please can students email Exams&AssessmentTeam@rooksheath.harrow.sch.uk requesting in writing which additional language they wish to be entered for. The deadline for entry is Thursday 2nd February 2024.

Each year the ability to run a home language GCSE, depends on whether we can find examiners to run the Speaking Exams in that language, and so **we cannot guarantee** that we will be able to find one for their particular Home Language. Please note that it may not be possible to run all languages where a speaking language examiner is not accessible. Students will be informed when they receive their GCSE entries in the Spring term whether it has been possible to enter for a home language GCSE.

It is hoped that we will be able to maximise the opportunity for students to gain a GCSE in their home languages as far as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Macaulay
Deputy Headteacher

