



20th January 2026

Dear Year 11 Students and Parents/Carers,

'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:

- Listening
- Speaking
- Reading
- Writing

These exams would take place around the end of April or early May in the same exam season as all other exams.

Please can students fill in the attached Home Language exam application form and return to Exams & Assessment Team by either

- 1) emailing the soft copy of the form to Exams&AssessmentTeam@rooksheath.harrow.sch.uk,
or
- 2) handing in the hard copy of the form to AG9.

Each year the ability to run a home language GCSE exam for students depends on whether we can find examiners to run the Speaking Exams in that language, and hence we cannot guarantee that we will be able to find one for their Home Language. 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.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Subra

Deputy Headteacher – Curriculum and Assessment

