

Head of Department: Mr. J Seear

At Laureate Academy, all KS3 students learn Latin. The subject has experienced a dramatic decline in British schools in the last 100 years, and as such, has developed a reputation of elitism. We believe this is an unfair label, and perceive the benefits of the study of Latin should be opened to a wider range of students. Students will develop their literacy and grammar skills, will be exposed a number of classical texts, and will begin to understand the way in which classical Latin has infiltrated the modern world (for example, in abbreviations such as p.s. or a.m./ p.m., or in the stories and figures from classical mythology and literature). Latin helps to nurture students' skills of rigour, precision, resilience, problem-solving, analysis, and communication, and therefore is a highly-regarded and challenging, but greatly rewarding, subject that is valued by universities and employers. Studying Latin helps to put our students on a more level-footing with their privately-educated peers, and we hope that they develop genuine enthusiasm for, and enjoyment in, the subject.

KS3

The Key Stage 3 Latin curriculum is designed on the principle that the best experience of Latin occurs when cultural interest is combined with grammatical and linguistic precision. It is designed for a timetable of two lessons per week, one of which is a grammar lesson, one a translation. In their weekly grammar lesson, students learn either a discrete grammar point or a sub-section of a grammar point. In their next lesson, students translate a passage about the ancient world: they learn new and retrieve previously taught words, learn about the Classical world and consolidate the grammar point for that week. This process is repeated for four weeks, during which time the grammar points learnt culminate cohesively, as does the civilisation learning gained through translation. There are then two weeks of consolidation for the vocabulary, grammar and Roman civilisation learnt.

Our bespoke curriculum, written and provided by Future Academies, is distinctive for its emphasis on regular retrieval practice, building up students' knowledge over time. It provides a carefully sequenced progression model that bolsters the foundations of Latin and enables all students to make excellent progress.

Students will build up a strong understanding of Latin vocabulary and grammar, and will also study key moments in the Classical period, including Roman life and culture, the Homeric Epics, and Rome's international relationships in the late-Republican period.