

Japanese Policy

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1. Context

The Leamington LAMP Japanese Curriculum provides our students, when ready and if they wish to, the opportunity to study on the following courses.

- Edexcel GCSE Japanese Foundation Level
- Edexcel GCSE Japanese Higher Level
- A'Level Japanese
- Pre-GCSE/Engagement
- Japanese Enrichment Course

2. Aims

The Japanese curriculum at LAMP aims to develop;

- An understanding of Japanese in a variety of contexts
- A knowledge of Japanese vocabulary and structures
- Transferable language learning skills
- The ability to communicate effectively in Japanese
- Awareness and Understanding of countries and communities where Japanese is spoken.

3. Course structure & content – GCSE

The GCSE is available at both Foundation & Higher levels and LAMP staff will ensure that students are put on the correct level course.

The GCSE covers the following topics;

- Listening and understanding in Japanese
- Speaking in Japanese
- Reading and understanding in Japanese
- Writing in Japanese
- Develop awareness and understanding of culture and identity

The students will;

- Develop their ability to communicate confidently and coherently
- Listen to and understand clearly spoken speech
- Deepen their knowledge of how the language works
- Increase their vocabulary

The content of GCSE Japanese is structured across 5 themes. These are; Identity and culture, Local area, holiday, travel, School, Future aspirations, study and work, International global dimension

Course structure & content – A'Level

A level Japanese is a fully linear qualification. This means that all examinations must be sat at the end of the course. There will be no requirement for students to demonstrate spoken language skills.

Aims and objectives

Students are required to:

- study two works from a prescribed list
- summarise information from spoken and written sources in writing
- develop independent research skills
- undertake a task integrating the skills of listening, reading and writing
- translate from and into the target language.

Themes

There are four themes relating to the target language culture. Two themes relate to 'society, past and present', and two themes relate to 'political and/or intellectual and/or artistic culture, past and present'.

Prescribed works

There is specified a list of prescribed works in the target language, including **literary texts and films**. These are set by the awarding body. Students must study either one literary text and one film, or two literary texts. Knowledge and understanding of works will be assessed in Paper 2 (Translation into Japanese and written response to works).

Summarising information

This is a new requirement testing students' ability to summarise information.

Students should be able to:

- identify the main ideas
- summarise a line of argument and/or different points of view
- evaluate and draw conclusions.

Ability to summarise will be assessed in Paper 3 (Listening, reading and writing), question 5(c).

Independent research skills

Students will be required to develop as independent researchers through the study of language. Students are required to select one research subject from the four given in the specification and

undertake independent research on all three aspects. Students will have to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the research subject in Paper 1 (Translation into English, reading comprehension and writing (research question)).

4. Planning

The scheme of work for Japanese is planned according to the levels and aims of the students. Where a learner can, and wants to, they will study towards the GCSE at the appropriate level. Where students wish to attend the enrichment course, there is flexibility in the planning to allow the subject to develop in a way that suits their desired outcome e.g. study of culture or speaking skills.

5. How is Japanese taught at LAMP?

- Japanese lessons for enrichment groups are generally 1 hour in length. If students are studying for GCSE, they may have double, 2 hours sessions. For A level, they may have 4 hours sessions and 3-4 hours self-study time will be set up.
- To be successful in GCSE & A'Level Japanese, students need to be able to attend a specific amount of lessons per week to ensure they receive enough teaching and learning time. This is roughly 120 hours across 2 years
- Classes are taught in small groups – enrichment course students would rarely be in the same class as GCSE students unless they were particularly skilled in the subject.
- A Genki 1 Japanese text book and the Genki 1 work book are mainly used in GCSE courses, and a variety of resources (Kanji drill, Hiragana practice sheets, words card game, numbers card game, video) are used to aid understanding and best highlight different topics in especially in Pre GCSE course.
- A Genki 2 Japanese text book and the Genki 2 workbook are mainly used in the first year of A level courses. Variety of resources (Kanji drill, literary texts, films, books, videos, websites are used for thorough 2 years course.
- Topics are linked to real life examples, where appropriate, which in turn supports other subjects in the LAMP curriculum such as the PSHE curriculum.

6. Timetabling

Japanese at LAMP is timetabled at various times across the week.

7. Monitoring course progress and assessment

Induction:

When possible, new students are assessed in class over the course of a few sessions. This allows the teacher to gauge what skills the students have giving the teacher a reasonable idea on the current and potential abilities of the student. Teachers will also take direction from the student's EHCP and information provided by the previous school and/or last placement

Due to the nature of the students at LAMP, their high anxiety and the timeline of when they join the class throughout the year. LAMP do not use formal baseline tests at the start of courses.

For entry on the GCSE courses, students will normally need to have completed the pre- GCSE course to provide diagnostic information regarding suitability for the GCSE. For an A level course, students will normally need to have passed the GCSE Higher tier with grade 6 over.

During the course:

Progress and achievements are regularly monitored and discussed with teachers, exams officers and SLT throughout the year. Student reports are written twice yearly and subject staff feed progress update information into the half termly progress reviews that are held with parents, referrers and students.

Mock assessments for GCSE and A'Level subjects take place in December, (or later) for students taking exams the following summer. This allows opportunities for students to experience and understand the formal exam process.

Student progress is recorded in individual reports, written by the teacher immediately after each lesson. These reports highlight each student's progress during the lesson; including areas of achievement, misconceptions, positive and negative attitudes towards the subject or a specific topic, and any other noteworthy incidents or results.

At the end of the course:

Assessment takes place for both Foundation and Higher GCSE and A'Level during the summer term in line with the summer series timetable.

8. Involvement with other key staff at LAMP

Exams Officer

The subject leader works closely with the Exams Officer at key times in the year to ensure that the correct students are entered for the correct qualifications at the correct level.

SENCO

The subject leader works closely with the SENCO to ensure that the correct access arrangements for the students are put in place and that these are the students' normal way of working in the classroom. Typical access arrangements used at LAMP include; the use of a word processor, scribe, reader and the provision of 25% extra time.

Education Quality Manager

The subject leader works closely with the Quality Manager, throughout the year, through the close monitoring of the teaching and learning process and outcomes in Japanese.

9. Progression

Students who successfully pass Higher Japanese GCSE can continue on, if they wish, to study Japanese at A'Level.

10. Links to other policies and documents

- Curriculum Policy
- Timetable
- Japanese Curriculum Plan & Scheme of work
- Marking Policy
- Teaching & Learning Policy