



The Henrietta Barnett School

The Classics Curriculum



Authenticity - Kindness - Curiosity
Connection - Endeavour

www.hbschool.org.uk

Year 7, 8 and 9 Latin

All students study Latin in Years 7, 8 and 9 using the Cambridge Latin course. From early on in the course, students are encouraged to make links between Latin vocabulary and words in other languages with which they are familiar and so to increase the range of their vocabulary, in English and in modern foreign languages. Latin is not studied in isolation from the people who spoke it but rather our KS3 course gives an insight into what life was like 2000 years ago, first of all in the Italian city of Pompeii, and then in Roman Britain and Alexandria.

Regular project work includes research projects on topics such as the Trojan War, science and medicine in the ancient world, and an introduction to reading and writing in Ancient Greek.

GCSE Classical Civilisation (OCR)

The GCSE Classical Civilisation course involves the study of two modules, Myth and Religion, and the Homeric World. Students explore Greek and Roman mythology through authors such as Ovid, as well as visual sources such as vase-paintings and architectural sculpture.

For the module on the Homeric World, students read extracts from Homer's *Odyssey* and study the archaeology of the Bronze Age. Students of classical subjects at GCSE level have the opportunity to go on a trip to the Bay of Naples to visit the sites of Pompeii and Herculaneum.

GCSE Classical Greek (OCR)

Students can take up Greek from scratch in Year 10, sitting the GCSE examination at the end of Year 11. After learning the Greek alphabet, students progress rapidly to reading Greek passages of increasing length and sophistication, both in terms of content and linguistic structures.

The stories read in Greek in Year 10 cover a range of topics – from the issues explored in Greek mythology to the philosophy of Socrates. The Year 11 Greek course involves the study of literature in the original language. Currently the prescribed texts are a book of Homer's *Odyssey* and extracts from Herodotus' *Histories*.

GCSE Latin (OCR)

The stories in the Cambridge Latin Course in Year 10 are set in Aquae Sulis (modern Bath), and Rome. Ways of expression are learned that are more sophisticated than those met in KS3 and, as a result, the reading material explores topics in greater depth. In Year 11, students begin their study of literature in Latin.

They experience at first-hand how Roman writers expressed their ideas in both prose and poetry, using editions which make the material accessible and enjoyable to read. Students not only translate the text but explore how authors use words to create effects, discussing the positioning of words, sound effects and the choice of words to evoke particular moods and atmospheres. All students of Latin visit the Roman Baths in Bath in Year 10.

A Level Classical Civilisation (OCR)

This course is offered at A Level both to those who have studied a classical subject at GCSE and those who have not. Modules include a study of two epics, the Iliad and the Aeneid, as well as Greek Art, which looks at vase-painting, free-standing sculpture and architectural sculpture. Students of classical subjects at A level have the opportunity to go on a trip to Greece to visit Delphi, Olympia, Mycenae and Athens.

A Level Classical Greek (OCR)

This course covers both language and literature studied in the original language. Students acquire a thorough and rigorous knowledge which enables them to access, in the original Greek, texts such as Sophocles' Oedipus the King and Plato's Protagoras.

A Level Latin (OCR)

This course covers both language and literature. Currently the authors studied for the literature papers include Propertius, Tibullus, Ovid and Cicero. The language papers require students to work with unseen passages from Livy and Ovid and both to translate passages and to show appreciation of the authors' style.