

DOCTRINA PROMOVET



Dumfries Academy

FACULTY of LANGUAGE
& LITERACY

What is the Language & Literacy Faculty?

The Language and Literacy faculty comprises of:

- English
- Literacy
- Modern Languages (French & Spanish)
- the school Library Resource Centre (LRC)

All pupils study English S1-4 & Modern Languages S1-3.

You may continue these subjects until S6, and can also choose to pick up when you move into S4-6.



S1 Overview - Modern Languages

You will study both French and Spanish in S1, in blocks throughout the year.

You will start with French, and we're looking forward to hearing what you remember from Primary!

Topics covered include greetings, weather, school, family, daily routine...

You will get the chance to learn about cultural aspects such as festivals, cooking and films



bonjour

A close-up photograph of a person's right hand holding a black pen over a lined notebook. The hand is positioned as if about to write. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the skin and the lines of the notebook.

S1 Overview - English

In English, you will develop your skills in reading, writing, talking & listening, continuing from primary.

These skills will be used all over the school, too.

Work will be based round class texts.

Each class will visit the library once a week & you will be reading at home, too.

You will start the first term with a unit about biography & autobiography.

Location

You can find the Language & Literacy faculty in the main school building:

- English is in on the ground floor, rooms G1-7
- Modern Languages is above this, on the first floor, in rooms F6,7 & 9

You will not have all of the teachers in S1 but you might as you progress through the school!

Let's meet the Team!





Ms Kell – Principal Teacher Language & Literacy

Teaches: English and Media

Favourite author: Too many to list! At the moment I'm reading Suzanne Collins' 'Hunger Games' prequel which I'm looking forward to talking to pupils about.

Favourite word: ointment

Thing you enjoy teaching the most: Poetry. I like when pupils think they hate it or don't understand it, then get into it.

Likes / interests: reading, running, going to gigs, theatre, travelling, cooking & eating, cats!

Favourite destination: my favourite view is home, looking over the Solway Firth; but I love visiting a tiny village in Tenerife.

Favourite food: French bread and cheese

Next language to learn: I'm practising my French just now for when I can go on holiday again!

Message to S1: I'm looking forward to meeting you all and getting to hear about what you like reading and watching, and I'm especially looking forward to helping you settle into the Academy.



Mrs Goodrich – Teacher of Modern Languages

Teaches: French , Spanish and English

Favourite book: *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens

Favourite movies: *The Tree of Life* 2011 and *Marie Curie –The Courage of Knowledge* 2016

Favourite word: pamplemousse, the French word for grapefruit.

Thing you enjoy teaching the most: French films, poetry and grammar.

Likes / interests: Walks with my dog, swimming and cooking

Message to S1: I look forward to meeting and teaching you. It will be great to learn which languages you know about, from school experiences, travel and home.



Ms Kerr – Teacher of Modern Languages

Teaches: French and Spanish

Favourite book: *Le Petit Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

Favourite movie: *La Haine*

Favourite word: French – *barbe à papa* = candy floss (it literally means “daddy’s beard”); Spanish - *achuchar* = to hug someone really tightly

Thing you enjoy teaching the most: films, literature, festivals and traditions

Likes / interests: travelling, walking, cooking, reading, yoga

Favourite destinations: Barcelona, Berlin, Paris, San Sebastián

Message to S1: As Nelson Mandela said, “If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart.” Looking forward to meeting you, S1!



Mr Leonard –Teacher of English & Head of Barrie House

Teaches: English

Favourite word: nevertheless

Favourite book: *The Picture of Dorian Gray*

Favourite movie: *The Wicker Man*

Thing you enjoy teaching the most: any novel I like

Favourite place you've lived: London

Interests: football & golf

Favourite food: anything pasta based

Message to S1: Give every opportunity a go!



Mrs Mackay– Teacher of English

Favourite book / author: To Kill a Mockingbird and John Buchan

Favourite movie: *Shrek*

Favourite word: discombobulate

Thing you enjoy teaching the most: Shakespeare

Likes / interests: baking and reading and cycling – though not all at once!

Message to S1: Looking forward to getting to know you and what you enjoy doing most.



Mrs Paterson-Urquhart – Teacher of English & Media

Favourite book / author: I love Philip Pullman's 'His Dark Materials' series, Stephen King, Margaret Atwood, Iain Banks, the 'Harry Potter' books, graphic novels...the list is endless!

Favourite movie: Too hard to choose just one! At the moment I've been watching lots of foreign language films. I also like all the Marvel films, and am a huge horror fan!

Favourite word: whigmaleerie

Thing you enjoy teaching the most: Film. I enjoy film analysis and making films too!

Likes / interests: cinema, reading, travel, live music, Xbox, walks with my dog.

Favourite destination: I love travelling to new places. The south of Italy is a particular favourite. Excellent food and the best ice cream!

Favourite food: Sunday roast, homemade lasagne, and seafood spaghetti.

Next language to learn: I'd like to brush up on my Italian.

Message to S1: Welcome to Dumfries Academy. You've made an excellent choice. Looking forward to seeing you in class!



Mr Powell - Teacher of English

Favourite book / author: *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway

Favourite word: repatriate

Thing you enjoy teaching the most: drama, short stories.

Likes / interests: skiing, baking,

Favourite destination / favourite place you've lived: Cape Cod, USA

Favourite food: Anything that swims!

Next language to learn: Italian

Message to S1: Learn to read for enjoyment and you'll succeed at most things in school.



Mr Scade – Teacher of English

Thing you enjoy teaching the most: The lessons I like best are when everyone is learning together as a team, helping and encouraging each other to do their best!

Likes / interests: Cycling and music

Favourite destination / place you've lived: Lisbon

Favourite food: Indian

Next language to learn: Gaelic

Message to S1: Welcome to Dumfries Academy. It's a great school and we are looking forward to learning with you!



Miss Smith – Teacher of English & Media

Favourite book / author: I'm in a travel phase and have just enjoyed *Full Tilt* by Dervla Murphy. Otherwise - Maggie O'Farrell, Charlotte Bronte, Cormac McCarthy, Margaret Atwood. Garth Nix and AA Milne for comfort reading.

Favourite movie: I'm a fan of anything directed by Wes Anderson.

Favourite (foreign) word: appizzicatta – it's a Southern Italian dialect word for feeling too hot and sticky.

Thing you enjoy teaching the most: I like getting invested in the characters in a good novel with a class. Or teaching film studies.

Likes / interests: Anything outside – cycling, walking or climbing make me happy. Reading, cooking, drawing, linocut printing.

Favourite place you've lived: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

Favourite food: Cold roast chicken and salad, followed by apple pie and cream.

Next language to learn: Spanish.

Message to S1: Say yes to the opportunities that you are offered. Be kind, ask for help, and be proud of what makes you unique. You'll have a good time at the Academy.



Mrs Wilson – Teacher of Modern Languages & Head of Haining House

Favourite author: Isabel Allende

Favourite movie: Anything directed by Pedro Almodóvar

Favourite word: polideportivo – the Spanish word for sports centre or ayuntamiento – Spanish word for town hall

Thing you enjoy teaching the most: Love teaching cultural aspects of the course, songs, poetry and films.

Likes / interests: I love travelling. Learning about different cultures fascinates me. I enjoy walking and spending time with family and friends. I am always talking about food and eating out.

Favourite destinations: Ecuador, Morocco (always helps when you speak the lingo!)

Message to S1: Looking forward to getting to know you all. Hasta la vista.



Mrs Dillon – Teacher of English and Rector of Dumfries Academy

As well as running the school, don't be surprised if you also meet Mrs Dillon teaching you an English class or two!

Favourite book/author: “Sunset Song” by Lewis Grassic Gibbon and all of Thomas Hardy’s novels

Things she enjoys teaching the most: teaching any literary texts (particularly prose fiction) and she also likes teaching close reading!

Favourite destination: Antigua (it’s in the Caribbean!).

Favourite food: Italian

Favourite movie: too many to mention!

Message to S1: Can’t wait to meet you all. It’s so exciting to see you all eager to do your best. Take every opportunity to get involved in school life and ask for help when you need it. We all want you to succeed!

Top tip: she’s also very good at French!