

9 October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope your son/daughter has enjoyed the opportunity to study French, German, Spanish and Mandarin in the MFL taster sessions as part of our cultural awareness half term. The languages team has been impressed with the work rate, willingness to learn and enthusiasm of our Year 7 students.

We now need to decide the most appropriate next steps. From November 2020 your son/daughter will study either one or two languages. We have some flexibility in working with you to choose which language or languages will be studied. We are now asking your child to give us an indication of which language(s) he/she **would prefer**; these need to be rank ordered 1 – 4. We can then bear these preferences in mind when allocating students to groups.

Decisions will be made based on aptitude in the lessons to date, staff specialisms, and class numbers.

Please be aware this is not an options process but an opportunity to hear student voice and respond to it within the constraints that we have. It is highly unlikely that we will be able to give every child their first preference, however we do take pride in the breadth of offer that we have at The Castle School which is significantly different to others.

Once the groups have been decided your son/daughter will be informed of which language(s) he/she will study from November 2020. In addition, we would be grateful if your child could answer a few questions about their experience of languages at primary school, as this is helpful to better understand the background of our language learners on arrival at the school. Your child will receive a link via their school email to an online form in order to rank the languages in order of preference and to answer the questions about previous experience of language learning. The online form can also be accessed here:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=L-EUL11N3USI2F3alfkrxN14y-V2lnhHp34k-pyLUOBUNUY3QjFSVjhFSDdRWFZFTUNIWIIRRUkJPWS4u>

Please fill in the online form by **Wednesday 14 October**.

Yours sincerely



Simon Floyd

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