

Language Learning Top Tips for KS3



A big part of language learning is building up vocabulary. This booklet will give you some ideas as to how to help your child become an independent language learner.



There will be frequent vocabulary tests for all languages, and students should aim to build up their knowledge as they go along.

Here are some tried and trusted methods for **ALL languages**. We encourage students to reflect on what they do – this will make them better learners.

- Practise spellings using '**look, say, cover, write, check**'. All students have a green languages rough book they could use.
- Practise on a **mini whiteboard**.
- Make **flashcards** with English/picture on one side and the other language on the reverse.
- Make a **mind map** with words grouped by topic.
- **Teach** someone else.
- **Test** yourself or get someone to test you.
- Spread the practice over more than one day (spaced learning) – "**little but often**".

- **Go back over** previous learning to keep it fresh.
- Practise spellings **online** / on **apps** (see list below)
- Ask your child to **explain** what and how they are learning.
- Just looking at the words on the bus on the way to school should be a last resort!

In **Japanese and Chinese**, students will need to practise and learn **hiragana/characters** as well as vocabulary. They are the basic building blocks of those languages.

- Turn the characters into **stories** or **pictures** (mnemonics).
- Practise getting the characters to **look the same each time**.





Try these websites:

- **Linguascope**
(www.linguascope.com)
Username: klbs Password:
kingswood
- **Languages Online**
(www.languagesonline.org.uk)
- **BBC KS3 Bitesize** French/Spanish
(www.bbc.co.uk/education)
- Mobile phone **apps** such as: Memrise
(www.memrise.com) or Duolingo
(www.duolingo.com)
- **Quizlet.com** (teachers will point students
to the right place; “learn” setting is best)
- **Hiragana drag and drop**
- See **school website** for more tips on
memorising:
www.klbschool.org.uk/students/study-skills