



Beths Grammar School

an 11 – 18 selective school with academy status

Headteacher: Mr R J Blyghton

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Monday, 20 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

After school classes in Japanese

Year 7 students will have the opportunity to learn Japanese from October 2021 as part of the extra-curricular provision in languages. Lessons will be conducted at the following times, and will be taught to a small group of 20 students:

Day: Thursday

Time: 15.30 – 16.30

Start date: 7th October 2021

Students will be introduced to the fascinating culture of Japan through an integrated approach in lessons. Students will learn two of the three Japanese scripts in Year 7 (hiragana and katakana) as well as some simple 'kanji' characters. By the end of Year 7, students will gain language knowledge across a range of topics, including 'All About Me', 'Family and Pets', 'Nationality', 'Food and Drink' and 'Hobbies'.

The objective of this academic course will be to potentially enter students for a Japanese GCSE in Year 11. Students will be able to continue to carry on studying Japanese as a GCSE to Year 11, should they wish to do so. Japanese will be delivered as an academic subject and students must be committed to studying Japanese and complete classwork and homework to the best of their ability.

If you would like to apply for this course, please return the **reply-slip below by this Thursday, 23 September** to register your interest, or email your child's name and form to mfl@beths.bexley.sch.uk, stating 'Japanese course' as the subject. Applicants will be required to take a short language **aptitude test this Friday, 24 September at 3.30pm in S17**, and 20 students with the highest attainment in this assessment will be selected for the programme. We do not advise Year 7 Mandarin students to apply for the course or selection test due to possible confusion with the characters in the two languages. Students do not have to revise or prepare in advance of the test, as this will be to ascertain their aptitude skills and will last no longer than 30 minutes.

If your son has been successful in securing a place on this activity, you will be required to sign a permission slip for your son to attend these after school lessons, and in doing so will confirm commitment to regular attendance throughout the first year of the course. Participation will be reviewed on an annual basis, dependent on continued attendance, progress and desire to continue.

We look forward to receiving your applications for this exciting course.

Yours faithfully

Ms E Cato-Sargeant
Head of Modern Foreign Languages

Please return to Mrs Cato-Sargeant by in the MFL office or email your child's name and form to mfl@beths.bexley.sch.uk stating 'Japanese course' as the subject of the email **by this Thursday, 23 September**

Student name:
Form:
I would like to apply for a place on the after-school Japanese course for one year from October 2021 to July 2022. My son will attend the selection test on 24 th September at 3.30 pm in S17.
Signature: