

GCSE Latin

Why study Latin?

The Romans once lived in our country and changed our history fundamentally. Latin opens a window into our past, allowing us to experience the culture and literature of the ancient Romans, and showing us the beauty and clarity of the language our ancestors spoke. Latin is a unique subject, involving elements of history, literature, analysis and, of course, language, and therefore goes well with any other subject at GCSE.

What will I study?

You will study the Latin language, building on the knowledge you have gained by the end of Year 9. There are also two other units – prose literature (which describes the druids and the rebellion of Boudicca), and a background unit (covering Roman forms of entertainment, Roman myths and their beliefs).

How will Latin benefit me?

Latin is very well respected academically and makes you stand out on university applications, as it shows that you can appreciate language, literature and culture. It helps you to develop transferable skills – such as linguistic analysis, precision and problem-solving skills – and these will help you with all manner of other subjects. Don't forget, it is very hard to take Latin up again once you have dropped it, so don't lose your chance!

ASSESSMENT

There are three exams:

Language paper

1 hour 30 minutes (50% of the GCSE)

Prose literature and background papers

1 hour long each (each 25% of the GCSE)

There is no coursework

