



### Classics Department

Latin is taught from Year 8 up to GCSE and A Level. AQA Classical Civilisation is offered in the 6<sup>th</sup> Form at AS and A Level.

Latin is a compulsory subject in Year 8 and Year 9 but one that is very much enjoyed. The *Cambridge Latin Course* is used during both years of Key Stage 3, supplemented by a variety of activities, drama, songs and visits to Roman sites like St Albans. In Year 8 pupils have three lessons per week in Year 8 and two per week in Year 9.

Latin is also a very popular choice for GCSE; currently between 40 and 50 pupils opt for it each year. We use the OCR syllabus, incorporating the Sources for Latin module which enables pupils to study aspects of Roman society and culture in more depth. At the beginning of Year 11 we run a highly successful residential trip to Rome.

For those wishing to continue with Latin, we offer the subject at AS and A2 levels, again using the OCR specification. Numbers for the subject remain small but constant. Currently we have a set of 8 in year 12 and are expecting similar numbers next year.

In addition we offer Classical Civilisation AS and A2 for those students without linguistic background. We follow the AQA syllabus and currently our modules are Homer's *Odyssey* and Cicero at AS; Roman Epic and Augustus for A2. There are approximately 15 students in both years of the 6<sup>th</sup> form.

The Department has an excellent record of academic success. In June 2011 100% of the Classical Civilisation students achieved Grade A and of the Latin 'A' Level candidates 67 % gained Grade A or B. GCSE grades at A and A\* remain around the 80% mark. In the recent past a number of students have begun Classics degree courses at universities, including one at Oxbridge. A considerable number of our current Year 12 students intend to study a Classical subject at degree level.

The Department has one specialist 'A' level teaching room equipped with interactive whiteboard and the junior teaching room is also fitted with an interactive whiteboard. Our store of electronic and online resources is growing all the time; in particularly considerable use is made of the *Cambridge Latin Course* E-learning resource at KS3. We are also well stocked with secondary literature and copies of set texts.

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