



Latin GCSE

Latin is a challenging but rewarding GCSE, widely respected by top universities. At K.E.S. we follow the OCR syllabus, which involves a balance of language and literature.

In Year 9 we build on the vocabulary and language work of Years 7 to 8. We work at developing a solid foundation in the language as well as knowledge of the myth and literature of the ancient world through a study of the Trojan War.

By the Mid-GCSE Mock Examination in Year 10 students should be confident with the language paper, based on the prescribed vocabulary lists and grammar. Alongside this, we study aspects of Roman history. After the mock examinations we begin a study of Latin prose literature, reading lightly adapted versions of texts by authors like Caesar, Cicero, Pliny or Tacitus.

- For 2023-24 the texts are an account of the strange ghost story about Thessalian witches from **Apuleius' Golden Ass**, and **Cicero's** words of warning about a house-selling scam contained within his work **de officiis**. The exam board has not yet released details of the texts to be studied from 2025 onwards.

In the Year 11 Mock the prose set texts are examined alongside the language.

We then begin to study Roman poetry in the original Latin. Students develop their skills in translating and analysing the language as well as their knowledge of the history and culture of the ancient world.

- For 2023-24 the text is a selection of extracts from **Virgil's Aeneid VI**. Aeneas travels to the Underworld and is carried across the river Styx by Charon, the ferryman of the dead, and meets his father Anchises who reveals the future heroes of Rome.