

Maximum Classics: Progress & Impact Update February 2018

Project background

Maximum Classics is a course that introduces pupils aged 7-11 to the highlights of Roman and Ancient Greek culture, combined with a



foundation course in Latin. The programme is designed to be delivered by non-specialist incumbent teachers after minimal training, and to also support the primary curriculum, especially in English. The project is entirely web-based, with participating teachers receiving access to the MaximumClassics.com website, which contains all of the plans and materials they need to deliver the course.



As a complement to the Maximum Classics offering, 2017 saw the launch of Mega Greek, a foundation course in Ancient Greek language and culture.

As of February 2018, the Maximum Classics and Mega Greek courses have been (or are about to be) taught in 35 state schools nationally.

Impact

The impact of the course has been demonstrated in schools who have participated in baseline and post-course tests, which assessed grammatical understanding (e.g. identification of subject and object nouns) and decoding of English word meanings:

<i>school</i>	<i>av baseline %</i>	<i>av. post-course %</i>	<i>variation</i>
Akiva	39	61	22
Weston Park	23	51	28
HAED	39	67	28
Mickle Trafford (club)	36	58	22
TOTAL	34	59	25

(n=111)

Qualitative feedback on the course and training has also been positive:

From teachers

“The children have really engaged with both the language and historical aspects.”

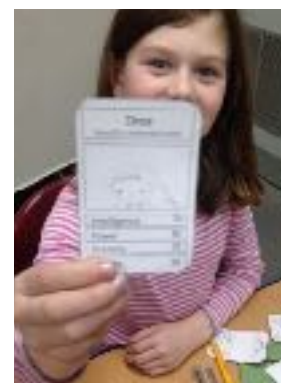


“The parents have relayed their children "chatting Latin" at home... they like bring the new vocabulary home.”

“EAL and SEN students fully engage in the lessons [and] seem to see the logic and simple application regarding the rules of the language.”

“You don't need to know Latin, it only takes 15-20 minutes of preparation [for each lesson].”

“This course... covers something very new and links into other parts of their existing curriculum (Spanish and SPAG in particular).”





“Thank you so so much, the training was brilliant and the response from staff has been incredibly positive. Every teacher I have spoken to has already attempted the first lesson in their class and the children have really engaged with it, whether in Year 6 or Year 3. An incredibly positive start.”

From parents

“L. enjoyed the club. It offered different activities which she liked.”

“T. really enjoyed it and the whole family learned something.”

“W. has really enjoyed the mime work, making the catapult and learning actual Latin. W. can't think of anything he didn't enjoy (that's amazing as he'd usually say writing!). If you run it again he would love to take part. Many thanks for running the classes.”