

German and French Subject Curriculum Overview

Why are German and French important?

Learning a foreign language provides opportunities. You learn to communicate with people in other countries. French and German provide opportunities in the world of work. The communication skills gained through the study of French and German can be readily applied to other subject areas. Learning a foreign language helps to improve cultural knowledge, aimed at breaking down the barriers of intolerance and ignorance. As students are exposed to as many authentic situations as possible, they learn that foreign language skills help to overcome challenges and help them develop as an individual.

Summary of the Department

Mrs B. Perkins – Curriculum Leader – Teacher of German and French

Mrs J. Bryden – Teacher of French

Mr W. Davidson – Teacher of German

Mr C. Hamilton – Teacher of French and German

Mr D. Thomas – Teacher of French

Key Stage 3

The KS3 curriculum promotes inquisitive linguists who have a thirst for learning about the world around them. Students use language to be able to communicate with people from other countries and learn about other cultures. The KS3 curriculum is designed to give every linguist the opportunity to understand that success is achievable by all students. Students are given the opportunity to develop their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in the following topics:-

French:-

Year 7 – C'est parti, Famille et copains, Chez moi and On va en ville

Year 8 – Ma journée, On s'amuse, Famille et Domicile and Temps libre

Year 9 – Les sorties, Manger et boire, Voyages et vacances and Les copains

German:-

Year 7 – Hallo, Familie und Freunde, Die Schule and Freizeit

Year 8 – Mein Zuhause, Stadt und Land, Essen und Trinken and Gesundheit

Year 9 – Die Ferien, Nach der Schule, Wir gehen aus and Meine Zukunft

Students complete assessments at the end of each topic, as well as an annual exam.

Key Stage 4

Students follow the AQA specification for both GCSE German and French. Teaching resources are based on the Studio and Stimmt courses and include a variety of listening, reading, writing and speaking resources. Topics include School, Free Time, Family and Relationships, Technology, Food, Town and Area, Work, Holidays and Social Issues.

There are 4 exams at the end of Year 11: Paper 1 (Listening), Paper 2 (Speaking), Paper 3 (Reading) and Paper 4 (Writing).

Key Stage 5

Students follow the AQA specification for both A-level German and French. Teaching resources include the Hodder course book with the Dynamic Learning online materials, audio files, films and grammar exercises. Topics include Family, The Digital World, Youth Culture, Fashion, Music, Television, Festivals and Traditions, Art and Architecture, Politics and Immigration. Students also study the film Goodbye Lenin and the book Der Vorleser in German and the film Au Revoir les Enfants and the book No et Moi in French. There is an Independent Research Project in Year 13.

There are 3 exams in both Year 12 and Year 13:- Paper 1 (Listening, Reading and Writing), Paper 2 (Writing) and Paper 3 (Speaking)

Outside the classroom

The MFL department staff run an annual educational visit to Berlin. Students have the opportunity to experience German culture, learn about German history and improve their German skills by visiting the Berlin Wall, Checkpoint Charlie, the Brandenburg Gate, the Holocaust Memorial, Sachsenhausen concentration camp, the East Germany Museum, the Olympic Stadium, an ice cream café and Lake Wannsee.
