

German



Why choose German?

Technology, globalisation and ease of international travel are bringing more and more of the world within our reach. People who speak other languages are very popular with employers. Here are some reasons why:

- 60% of British trade is with non-English speaking countries
- 75% of the world's population do not speak English
- 65% of people in Britain speak only their own language- every other country in Europe has a wider knowledge of languages
- In fact any job you choose to do at home you can do in Germany if you know the language
- Studying German develops important skills that are useful in many different situations, both in the world of employment and in relationships with other people
 - Arguing and explaining your opinions
 - Convincing people that your ideas are worth hearing
 - Understanding someone else's point of view
- Experienced teachers and small class sizes
- Good value-added examination results
- Opportunity to participate in the German Exchange
- Many students progress to study German at university. However, languages also compliment a wide range of other subjects, e.g. Law, Business, History, Media and Engineering



German Course Details

The course enables you to develop both subject specific and transferable skills. AS Level takes some of the topics you met at GCSE and looks at them in more depth. This means you'll be covering familiar ground at first, but with more emphasis on life and culture in the foreign country.

As you will be asked to make comparisons with Germany, participation in the foreign country will be even more beneficial. Eventually we'll be looking at other social issues.

Examples of Topics Studied:

Leisure and Lifestyles, including travel and tourism, sport, hobbies, entertainment, customs, traditions, healthy living – health and nutrition, diet and exercise; unhealthy living - drugs, aids, smoking, alcohol

The Individual and Society, including relationships and responsibilities, gender issues, youth culture (values, peer groups, fashions and trends etc.), education, vocational training and future careers

Skills examined:

- Oral Examination - General conversation and topic-based conversation.
- Listening - Candidates will be issued with individual CDs which they will listen to on personal CD players as often as they require within the time of the exam. The items will be of varying length, reflecting a range of everyday situations and including formal and informal registers such as brief conversations, interviews and reports.
- Reading - The Reading part of the examination will be based on items of varying length, taken from newspapers, magazines and advertisements.
- Writing - The Writing task will be an essay from a choice based on the topic areas.

Departmental Information

Mrs A. Gregory, Curriculum Team Leader (M7)
Mrs H. Wells , Miss S. Schuettler

Students comments

“A Level German has not only given me the opportunity to develop my language skills, but also to learn more about German culture.” - Year 13 Student

“The German exchange enabled me to link the skills learnt in class to real life situations. This was a very valuable experience.” - Year 13 Student

“Learning German at A level is not just about how to speak the language. I have learnt how the German people live and their history. I gained more language skills and confidence from the exchange. I have also kept in touch with my exchange partner and she is now a close friend.” - Year 13 Student

One of the most important skills of tomorrows Europeans will be the ability to communicate in more than one language—Walter Schwimmer, Secretary of the Council of Europe