

## FRENCH/GERMAN - GCSE

### EXAMINING BOARD: WJEC

**ACCREDITATION:** GCSE French/German – the full range of grades A\* - G.

### NATURE OF THE SUBJECT:

A GCSE in a Modern Language rewards practical communication skills and adds a European and /or international dimension to your studies. You have developed important language skills and knowledge in Years 7 – 9 (or in Year 9 for your second Modern Foreign Language). The GCSE course will build on this and introduce you to a wider range of language structures and vocabulary. You will learn to recognise these and to apply your new knowledge in different contexts. If you enjoy language learning, consider taking more than one language at GCSE. Both languages are available in both Option 1 and Option 3. Thanks to new technology and improved travel and communications, the world has become a much smaller place. It is crucial, therefore, that we learn to understand and speak to each other. This can only be done effectively by learning other languages and appreciating associated cultures.

### CONTENT:

You will learn a range of skills and enjoy a variety of activities, covering the following topics:

- **Personal and Social Life** – self, family, friends, home life, shopping, meals, healthy living, illness and accident, free time, fashion, relationships, future plans.
- **Local Community** – Home town, school, education, local environment, pollution, recycling, local facilities, comparisons with other towns and regions, weather and seasons.
- **The World of Work** – Work experience, part-time jobs, future careers, technology (sending messages, accessing information).
- **The Wider World** – Travel and Holidays, media, social issues (e.g. life of young people today, homelessness, crime, drugs, healthy living, religion, politics), life in the countries and communities where the language is spoken.

### NATURE OF THE WORK:

This is a multi-skill GCSE

- Listening 20%
- Speaking 30%
- Reading 20%
- Writing 30%

It encourages you to express yourself - your likes, dislikes, ideas and opinions. There is potential for linking work to ICT – surfing the net, sending emails, using multi-media facilities and other practical ICT applications will be available.

## **ASSESSMENT:**

You will be assessed in each in each of the four skills.

- The speaking test – a structured conversation and a presentation with a discussion that your teacher will carry out with you. Marks will be awarded positively and are mostly allocated for ‘communication’ in the foreign language.
- In the reading and listening papers you answer the questions in English. Both Skills are offered at both Foundation and Higher Tier.
- The listening test may assess the comprehension of public announcements, instructions and requests, interviews, news items, short dialogues and monologues such as weather forecasts.
- The writing is assessed through controlled assessments. During Year 11 – you will complete a variety of written tasks prepared at home and written up in class under test conditions. The best TWO pieces of work will be submitted to the exam board as your writing assessment. You determine the level of your work by the length of your answers.

As with all GCSE examinations, your performance will be graded A\*-G according to your performance across the four skills.

## **POSSIBLE CAREERS:**

Learning another language can enhance your employment and mobility prospects whether you want a career in business, engineering, fashion or world class football. The MFL GCSE offers a progression route to further study of a Modern Foreign Language and helps the learning of other languages. Employers are always asking for candidates with language skills and a GCSE in foreign language will place you in a strong position for interesting employment with plenty of career opportunities. Examples of employment where language skills are particularly valued include journalism and media, law, engineering business and marketing, ICT, sport and leisure, travel and tourism, customer service, civil service (immigration, Customs & Excise, Diplomatic service) and Teaching (UK and abroad).

## **EXCHANGES**

There may be opportunities to visit our Exchange schools if you wish. We go to our Exchange school and spend a week with pupils living as part of their families and they spend a week with us.

## **WHO IS SUITABLE FOR THIS COURSE:**

A GCSE in a Modern Foreign Language will appeal to all types of students including those interested in travel, culture and people from different countries.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Please see: Mr V Roddy (M2) – French  
Mrs A Gregory (M7) – German