



A Level Modern Languages (German)

Key contacts: Miss V Murphy (Head of Department)

Exam Board: AQA

Overview of the course:

In a world growing 'smaller' due to increased contacts, trade and communications, the ability to communicate in one or more Modern Language is becoming more and more vital and advantageous.

Many young people are also beginning to think about careers which might take them abroad where there are rapidly growing opportunities all the time.

Proficiency in one or more modern language is the key which could unlock these opportunities.

It also provides both great enjoyment and intellectual stimulation and enriches one's personal life as a result of contacts and friendships abroad. To speak a modern language, therefore, provides skills for the **whole of life** and not just the work place.

What will you study?

Typical content which students will explore for the purposes of practical communication covers the areas of Culture and the Arts, the Media and a variety of Social, Environmental and Contemporary issues, as well as general human interest news items. These topics will be pertinent to any country where the studied language is spoken.

It cannot be emphasised enough how important it is that individual students appreciate the value of independent listening and reading practice to complement and enhance their studies. Therefore, students are to complete an independent study log throughout the year.

Trips

You will be offered to take part in a trip, i.e. work experience, exchange or cultural visits, depending on your chosen language.

Assessment

There are **three** units of assessment, tested through a variety of mixed skills papers.

These units, at the end of Year 12, will address the four major skills of **Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing**. Therefore, students will have regular opportunities to develop confidence and competence in these skills, through a variety of sources, materials and teaching strategies.

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing.
Assessment consists of a one hour and 45 minute exam.

Paper 2: Writing.
Assessment consists of a one hour and 40 minute exam.

Paper 3: Speaking
Assessment consists of an oral exam lasting 30 minutes, including preparation time.

Possible career path?

There are a very wide range of opportunities. These might typically include:

- Working overseas, e.g. for European Commission
- Bilingual Secretary
- Translating / Interpreting
- Journalism / Media
- Sales / Marketing and distribution
- Specialist careers in the Civil Service
- Secretarial Linguist
- Travel and Tourism – Hotel Catering
- Teaching / Lecturing
- Law, Insurance and Accountancy in the EEC

These certainly aren't the only ones - as mentioned earlier, opportunities in almost all types of work can be **enhanced** if you can communicate in a suitable foreign language.

Entry requirements

Five GCSEs Grade 9-5, including English and Mathematics **and** a Grade 6 in German.