

“Creating employable global citizens through effective communication”

Department overview

We are a small team of committed linguists, who believe that learning a Modern Foreign Language is an exciting and enjoyable challenge for all students. Our vision is to develop as many proficient and enthusiastic communicators in Modern Foreign Languages as possible, who have a respect for, and appreciation of, the differences inherent in the cultures of our Target-Language countries. We are committed to encouraging students to speak spontaneously in the Target Language.

Courses and resources

All students in Years 7 and 8 study both French and German. They can then opt for one or both languages at GCSE if they so choose, and we follow the AQA GCSE Specification. At Key Stage 5 we offer A Level in French and German, following the Edexcel Specification.

We do not follow one specific textbook, preferring to work collaboratively to develop resources that suit the needs of all our learners. However, we do have access to a wide selection, including Equipe, Expo, Allez, Echo Express, as well as AQA GCSE and Edexcel A-Level course books in French and German. We also subscribe to Kerboodle for KS4 French and German.

Each classroom is equipped with a data projector and speakers and all members of staff have their own laptop. The Department has an extensive range of both paper resources and e-resources and we make use of a variety of software and websites including Linguascope and VocabExpress.

Teaching Groups

Where possible members of the department teach across the full ability and age range in both French and German. We believe in a languages for all policy, and as such, all students study at least one language in KS3. In KS4, students are set according to ability where possible, and we encourage gifted linguists to study both languages.

Extra Curricular

We currently offer a lunchtime French café once a week, where students can eat their lunch and chat in French. We also offer German lunchtime speaking sessions, aimed largely at KS4. All Year 7 students are participating in a day trip to Boulogne in July, and we aim to re-introduce residential trips for German and French KS4 students next year. We actively encourage students to participate in language competitions, and have had great success in VocabExpress competitions in recent years.