



# German Higher Level – U6

## Curriculum Intent

The German department seeks to develop ambitious and resilient linguists who recognise their common humanity and strive to gain inter-cultural understanding and respect. We aim to provide an understanding of German in a range of themes from social changes, global issues and history which enables students to communicate effectively in authentic situations on their exchange visits and be prepared for the challenges of developing the language at a higher level and with an aspiration to continue the language at University or to at least see its value in their future career paths. We intend to develop our students to be inquisitive and curious about German-speaking cultures, knowledgeable and understanding, open-minded and courageous as they personally develop through their learning of German.

*“Die Sprache ist die Kleidung der Gedanken”* Samuel Johnson

### **Students will learn:**

Extensive grammatical knowledge including how to use language in a variety of purposes.

In Upper Sixth we will study theme 5:

#### Sharing the planet

The environment; Human rights; Peace & conflict; Equality; Globalization; Ethics; Urban & rural environment

Literary Study

Andorra, Max Frisch

We will re-visit all themes from Year 1:

- Identities
- Experiences
- Human ingenuity
- Social organization

IB Text types covered:

- Personal texts
- Professional texts
- Mass media texts

For the remainder of the course, we will complete extensive revision, skill-focussed work, projects and exam preparation for the mock and final IB exams.

### **What does excellence look like?**

- Confident and accurate use of German with varied vocabulary and structures, including complex language.
- Critical analysis of issues, themes and cultural or social contexts demonstrated through convincing interpretations.
- Consistent use of evidence to justify points of view.
- Detailed, logical arguments and conclusions that consistently link.

## **Knowledge, Understanding & Skills**

- Understand and evaluate a wide range of written and spoken authentic personal, professional and mass media texts, identifying gist and detail.
- Initiate and maintain a conversation, displaying an ability to make adjustments in style or emphasis.
- Write for different audiences.
- Use a variety of strategies to maintain the flow of conversations and discussions on a variety of topics.
- Response to spoken text in writing, showing understanding of the main points, gist and detail.
- Continue to develop knowledge of vocabulary and grammar, as well as conceptual understanding of how language works.
- Develop critical thinking about language via ToK
- Understand fundamental elements of literary texts
- Analyse and evaluate extracts of literary texts, offering a spoken commentary
- Relate literary texts to key concepts issues and the social context

### **How can you enhance your learning at home?**

- All students have access to a German Sixth Form Padlet with a wealth of online resources such as:
  - Deutsche Welle
  - Goethe Institut
  - Spiegel.de
  - Grimm Grammar
  - Languagesonline
  - Memrise / Quizlet
  - Conjuguemos
- Writing bank
- Flipped learning
- ZigZag resources for reading and listening comprehensions
- Deutsch im Einsatz Coursebook
- Hodder Study Guide - *Andorra*
- William Tweed Resources Library

## How will we assess impact?

Our teaching encourages regular learning of key vocabulary and refinement of grammatical structures that are tested regularly. Teachers assess pupils less formally in class via the four skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing. Pupils work collaboratively in pairs and groups to constantly improve their speaking skills, providing peer feedback.

Each half-term pupils take an assessment in test conditions during lesson time. In January of Upper Sixth pupils take a full-length IB-style examination, which helps to predict their final grade as accurately as possible and to offer the students an opportunity to experience the speed and attention to detail required in the examination. All pupils have a full-length mock IB speaking examination in the November of Upper Sixth to help to prepare them for the real assessment, which takes place in March. The mock and final speaking examinations will be focused on the literary texts studied as well as discussion of a theme.



## International Opportunities

### Visits Programme

Options for visits to Germany in the Upper Sixth are more limited. Our Upper Sixth students act as ambassadors for our visits programme, encouraging younger students to be brave and to grab the opportunity to stay with a German-speaking family or to undertake work experience abroad.

Many of our German IB students took part in the long-term visit to Frankfurt in year 10 or the work experience visit in the Lower Sixth and continue to meet their partners for years to come!



### Within the curriculum

The second year of the German IB curriculum continues to deepen understanding and appreciation of German-speaking culture, via the study of the themes. Pupils are also encouraged to consider global issues within the German context, applying the critical thinking skills acquired via Theory of Knowledge.

We use authentic materials frequently to provide an immersive experience of the language and the culture.

