



German Standard Level – L6

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 Grenzen meiner Sprache bedeuten die Grenzen meiner Welt,“ Ludwig Wittgenstein
(The limits of my language are the limits of my world)*

Students will learn:

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

The course has five prescribed themes. In Lower Sixth we will cover the following 4 themes, linking to Theory of Knowledge throughout:

Identities

Lifestyles; Health & well-being; Beliefs & values; Subcultures; Language & identity

Experiences

Leisure activities; Holidays & travel; Life stories; Rites of passage; Customs & traditions; Migration

Human ingenuity

Entertainment; Artistic expression; Communication & media;; Technology; Scientific innovation

Social organization

Social relationships; Community; Social engagement; Education; The working world; Law & order

IB Text types covered

Personal texts; Professional texts; Mass media texts

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

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
 - Conjugemos
- Writing bank
- Flipped learning
- ZigZag resources for reading and listening comprehensions
- Deutsch im Einsatz textbook
- 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 June of Lower 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.



International Opportunities

Visits Programme

In the Spring term of the Lower Sixth, all pupils must complete a work experience placement. We offer all students of German the opportunity to undertake a two-week work placement in Frankfurt. Previous work placements have included primary schools, shops and restaurants.

Pupils stay with a family to give them the maximum opportunity to improve their language skills and to better understand the culture. This is an exchange programme so each students' partner also stays here for two weeks, whilst completing their own work placement.

Within the curriculum

The IB Language B curriculum has been designed to encourage appreciation of the German 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 through Theory of Knowledge.

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

