

WELCOME TO GCSE GERMAN

What will I study?

The context for learning the language is organised under **three broad themes**:

- Identity and culture
- Local, national, international and global areas of interest
- Current and future study and employment.

Each broad theme is divided into sub-themes including technology and social media, festivals and celebrations, holidays and tourism and applying for work/study.

Identity and culture

Youth Culture

- Self and relationships
- Technology and social media

Lifestyle

- Health and fitness
- Entertainment and leisure

Customs and Traditions

- Food and drink
- Festivals and celebrations

Local, national, international and global areas of interest

Home and Locality

- Local areas of interest
- Transport

Germany and German-speaking countries

- Local and regional features and characteristics
- Holidays and tourism

Global Sustainability

- Environment
- Social issues

Current and future study and employment

Current Study

- School/college life
- School/college studies

World of Work

- Work experience and part-time jobs
- Skills and personal qualities

Jobs and Future Plans

- Applying for work/study
- Career plans

The study of German will broaden your horizons, develop cultural knowledge and understanding and foster transferable skills such as confidence, communication, problem solving and creativity. A GCSE in German will also provide you with a solid foundation for future language study.

A GCSE in German will enable you to:

- develop your ability to communicate confidently and coherently with native speakers in speech and writing
- express and develop thoughts and ideas spontaneously and fluently
- listen to and understand clearly articulated, standard speech in German
- deepen your knowledge about how language works and enrich your vocabulary in order for you to increase your independent use and understanding of extended language in a wide range of contexts
- acquire new knowledge, skills and ways of thinking through the ability to understand and respond to a rich range of authentic spoken and written material, including literary texts
- develop awareness and understanding of the culture and identity of the countries and communities where the language is spoken
- make appropriate links to other areas of the curriculum to enable bilingual and deeper learning
- develop language learning skills both for immediate use and to prepare for further language study and use in school, higher education or in employment.

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How will I be assessed?

There are four assessments at GCSE which can be taken at either Foundation or Higher Tier. Each assessment is worth 25% of the qualification.

Component 1: Speaking
Oral test: 7-9 minutes (Foundation tier)
10-12 minutes (Higher tier)

25% of qualification

Three tasks:

One role play
One photo card discussion
One conversation

Component 2: Listening
Written examination: 35 minutes (Foundation tier)
45 minutes (Higher tier)

25% of qualification

The exam will involve responding to different types of spoken language including conversations, interviews and announcements. Some of the responses will be in German.

Component 3: Reading
Written examination: 1 hour (Foundation tier)
1 hour 15 minutes (Higher tier)

25% of qualification

The exam will involve responding to different types of written language including advertisements, newspaper articles, emails and letters. Some of the responses will be in German. There is also a short translation from the assessed language into English.

Component 4: Writing
Written examination: 1 hour 15 minutes (Foundation tier)
1 hour 30 minutes (Higher tier)

25% of qualification

This will involve writing three pieces of text for Foundation Tier, for example completing a form, writing an email or a message and writing an article for a magazine. The fourth task will be a translation of sentences from English into German. At Higher Tier, the exam will involve two tasks such as writing an article for a magazine and a website. The third task will be a translation of a short passage from English into German.

What skills will I develop?

You will develop skills in:

- speaking
- listening
- reading
- writing in German.

You will also develop confidence in communicating and an awareness and understanding of other cultures.

