

FRENCH/GERMAN

**Head of Dept/
German:**

Mrs. E. Black

Head of French:

Mrs. S. Drumm

Exam Board:

AQA

Brief Outline

There is a lot of evidence that firms all over the world are actively recruiting staff who can speak another language for a whole range of careers. Many companies cite communication and language skills as essential when looking for new staff. As competition for university places increases, communication skills may be what make you stand out from the crowd! Nowadays there are so many combined degree courses, law/accountancy/ science / medicine with languages – it makes sense to study a language in the Sixth Form.

The course builds on all of the work done at GCSE.

If you've got an A*, A or B at GCSE, then you will be able to do well at AS and A level as the same 'skills areas' are taught.

AS level involves 2 units

- i) an Oral (15 minutes)
- ii) a Listening, Reading and Writing Exam - (2 hours 15 minutes)

A - level involves 2 units

- i) an Oral (15 minutes)
- ii) a Listening, Reading and Writing Exam - (2 hours 30 minutes)

Course Structure and Organisation

Two teachers will be teaching each group and you will be examined in June of Year 12 and Jan/June of Year 13 for all units involving written work. We have chosen to do the coursework option. The oral will be slightly earlier just as it is at GCSE. This is conducted by one of your two teachers.

Reading and Listening material at AS will be drawn from the following broad subject areas:

- Media
- Advertising
- Food and Drink
- Travel, Transport and Holidays
- The Arts
- Daily Life
- Sports and Pastimes
- Human Interest News Items

Reading and Listening material at A2 level will be drawn from the following broad subject areas:

- Social Issues
- The Environment
- Education
- Human Interest News Items
- Law and Order
- Politics
- Technological Advances

The Listening exam both at AS and A level will involve students having their own individual tape recorder and headphones. Unlike GCSE, they will be able to listen to the tape over and over again.

The Oral Exam

As at GCSE pupils will be well prepared for these. Role-play, presentation and general conversation/discussion feature at AS and A2 level and are prepared to a large extent in advance. Orals are conducted as at GCSE by your teachers.

Assistance

Regular lessons on the timetable are offered by French and German assistants which will help considerably with preparation for the presentation.

Method of Teaching

As currently taught at GCSE, the course will involve more individual/pair/group work with a lively atmosphere conducive to practising 'communication skills'. Videos, extracts from films, music, role-play will all feature in both the AS and A2 course alongside new and exciting texts and listening material.

We subscribe annually to a digital resource bank, which is updated weekly. A work experience programme is organised for any students who are interested. It is becoming increasingly important to have good linguistic and communication skills—in fact your future depends on it, so go for it—try an AS in French and German!

Continue to A2 and develop a critical insight and understanding of a contemporary society and its culture.