



ERASMUS DARWIN ACADEMY

Excellence for All

GCSE German

Aims

Learning a modern foreign language enables you to work with others, share opinions and ideas and appreciate other cultures and backgrounds. It also helps to develop personal skills that enable you to adapt in an ever-changing world. German is the most widely spoken language in Europe; there are nearly 84 million inhabitants in Germany and German is also the official language of Austria, Switzerland, Luxembourg, and Liechtenstein. Being able to communicate in German can connect you to 100 million native speakers worldwide, as well as many more second language speakers. Germany has the fourth largest economy in the world and ranks third in the world for its export of goods and services. Knowledge of German can help to create business opportunities, particularly with innovative German technology and science companies. Furthermore, German is less commonly taught in UK schools, but is highly desired by employers, so those with a qualification in German really set themselves apart from other candidates in a highly competitive job market.

The Course

Students will follow the AQA GCSE German course (specification code 8668). The specification covers three distinct themes, which apply across all four question papers:

- Theme 1 = Identity and culture: Me, my family and friends; Technology in everyday life; Free-time activities; Customs and festivals in German-speaking countries/communities
- Theme 2 = Local, national, international and global areas of interest: Home, town, neighbourhood and region; Social issues; Global issues; Travel and tourism
- Theme 3 = Current and future study and employment: My studies; Life at school/college; Education post-16; Jobs, career choices and ambitions

Assessment

Progress is assessed throughout the course with weekly homework (vocabulary learning) and regular assessments, covering all four key examination skills (listening, reading, writing and speaking). Students are already familiar with the style of assessments from Key Stage 3. At the end of Year 11 there is a final examination for each of the four skills (listening, reading, writing and speaking); these are equally weighted, counting for 25% of the final grade. There is no coursework or controlled assessment.

Choose this course if..

Many employers now require knowledge of languages, so that you can deal with foreign customers, represent your company abroad, and even work in a German-speaking country or for a German or international company here in the UK. Even if you don't think you'll directly use German in your work, learning languages develops a range of skills that employers desire, such as good communication, understanding and appreciation of other cultures, logic, memorisation, dedication and application of knowledge in a variety of situations.

Post 16 Opportunities and Careers

There is an A-Level course in German which can lead to further study at university; many students now combine German with Business Studies, reflecting the increasing importance of foreign languages in business and commerce. (Other subjects which would complement German include: History, Geography, English, Sociology, Politics, Law, Music, Media). Potential careers using foreign language skills include: translator/interpreter, working in the armed forces or for an intelligence agency, teaching, journalism, customer service or working for a multinational company.

Exam Board Information



<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/german-8668>

Contact

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