



*Rewarding Learning*

**GCSE**  
**German**

**STUDENT  
GUIDE**



# INTRODUCTION

Studying German develops your language skills and knowledge by raising your awareness and widening your understanding of German-speaking countries/communities.

You will have the opportunity to use practical German and take your place as a citizen in a multilingual, global society.

## WHY STUDY GERMAN?

Studying German will give you the confidence to communicate effectively in a second language. You will be able to work independently and with others to enjoy the benefits of language learning.

## UNIQUE FEATURES OF THIS QUALIFICATION?

Our revised GCSE modern language specifications have four units: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. For the Listening, Reading and Writing units, you can enter at either Foundation Tier or Higher Tier.



# WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will study a range of topics in three Contexts for Learning:

- Identity, Lifestyle and Culture;
- Local, National, International and Global Areas of Interest; and
- School Life, Studies and the World of Work.

The four units are each worth 25 % of the overall GCSE.

UNIT ASSESSMENT	AREAS OF STUDY
<b>Unit 1: Listening</b>	<p>This is a written examination lasting approximately:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 35 minutes at Foundation Tier; and</li> <li>• 45 minutes at Higher Tier.</li> </ul> <p>You will answer twelve questions, in English and German.</p>
<b>Unit 2: Speaking</b>	<p>You will take part in two role-plays and a general conversation on two topics in German.</p> <p>The teacher conducts the speaking examination, which lasts 7–12 minutes (plus 10 minutes of role-play preparation time).</p>
<b>Unit 3: Reading</b>	<p>This is a written examination lasting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50 minutes at Foundation Tier; and</li> <li>• 1 hour at Higher Tier.</li> </ul> <p>You will answer questions in English and in German, as well as translating short sentences from German into English.</p>
<b>Unit 4: Writing</b>	<p>This is a written examination lasting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 hour at Foundation Tier; and</li> <li>• 1 hour 15 minutes at Higher Tier.</li> </ul> <p>You will answer four questions including listing (at Foundation Tier), short phrase/sentence responses, translating short sentences, and an extended writing task (from a choice of three) in German.</p>



Unit 1  
**Listening**

25%



Unit 2  
**Speaking**

25%



Unit 3  
**Reading**

25%



Unit 4  
**Writing**

25%

# WHAT CROSS-CURRICULAR SKILLS, THINKING SKILLS AND PERSONAL CAPABILITIES WILL I DEVELOP?



Through this course you will:

- improve your communication skills by learning how to express your viewpoint and ask questions;
- participate in discussions, debates and interviews;
- use mathematical skills to interpret statistical data in German such as diagrams and timetables;
- use ICT to present information, for example through a PowerPoint presentation;
- develop your planning, time management and self-evaluation skills;
- listen to and learn from others through discussion, group work and shared tasks;
- present reasons and justify opinions; and
- improve your problem-solving ability by considering various approaches and viewpoints to reach a conclusion.

## WHAT CAN I DO WITH A QUALIFICATION IN GERMAN?

Studying German can lead to further study or a career, for example in tourism, broadcasting, marketing, enterprise, business or teaching. There may also be opportunities for study abroad or other international programmes.

