

SUBJECT: German

YEAR: 8 & 9

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: Mrs V Wytchard

GROUPING POLICY: German will be offered in alternate years to set 1-3 in the right and left populations.

COURSE CONTENT:

What will my child learn?

The KS3 German course is called Echo Express. There are twelve modules over the two books, six of which are to be learnt in Year 8 and six in Year 9. The modules, outlined below, are based around topics of interest and will usually be taught roughly in line with the school terms. Grammar is taught alongside the topics and it is expected that students will be able to apply their knowledge of grammar to new contexts as the course progresses. In addition to the topics, the students will learn useful skills which can be applied to all language learning, such as recognising cognates, looking at how to deal with unknown vocabulary and developing learning or memorising techniques.

Year 8 Modules;

- **Module 1.**
Names, ages, where you live, the alphabet, school equipment, birthdays.
- **Module 2.**
School subjects, giving opinions about school, telling the time, describing your timetable, food and drink, uniform, school life in German-speaking countries.
- **Module 3.**
Family, describing appearance and personality, pets, writing emails.
- **Module 4.**
Sports, hobbies, frequency, arranging to go out, understanding holiday brochures.
- **Module 5.**
Talking in more detail about where you live, describing a house / flat etc, describing a room, furniture, giving opinions.
- **Module 6.**
Learning about some towns in German-speaking countries, saying what is in a town, discussing transport, the weather, directions, buying food and drink, discussing holiday plans.

Year 9 Modules;

- **Module 1.**
Talking about holidays using the present and past tenses.
- **Module 2.**
Shopping, pocket money, ordering in a café.
- **Module 3.**
Discussing what you do after school, television programmes, revising time, seeking and giving information about celebrities, talking about a trip.
- **Module 4.**
Health. Parts of the body, saying what's wrong, discussing healthy lifestyles.
- **Module 5.**
Arranging to go out, discussing clothes, parties, daily routine, youth problems.
- **Module 6.**
Discussing an exchange visit. Describing a town, being able to recognise and use past, present and future tenses in longer texts.

What will homework look like?

Homework will consist of various tasks, such as learning vocabulary, completing written or reading tasks, or preparing for assessment. Students can expect regular vocabulary tests and will develop learning strategies as they go through the course.

What enrichment opportunities are available?

A KS3 exchange currently runs with a school in Germany.

ASSESSMENT

How will my child's work be assessed?

We run end of module assessments which cover the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. It may be that not every skill will be assessed for each module. Judgements are also made on the quality of homework and classwork.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

How can I support my child in this subject?

Whether you speak the language that your child is learning or not, you can support them in many ways. For example:

- Having a bilingual dictionary at home for them to use will help them to develop their dictionary skills.
- Access sites such as 'Linguascope' to practise new vocabulary, through interactive games
- Encourage them to listen to the foreign language radio/ watch programmes on the Internet. This will allow them to practise their listening skills, develop confidence in pronunciation as well as develop an understanding of the culture.
- When watching films try to watch them in the foreign language with English subtitles or vice-versa.
- Test them often on the words they are currently learning.
- Get them to try to teach you something that they are learning.
- If you do speak the language, try to set aside some time each day/week that you communicate with them only in the language.
- Give them responsibility for dealing with day to day transactions when you are on holiday.
- Encourage your child to draft and check any written work they do, so that they focus on accuracy.