



Year 7

**Department of German**



# OVERVIEW

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KS3 German covers years 7, 8 and 9 and has an emphasis on communicating in German. We aim to provide your daughter with an opportunity to discover another culture, foster her curiosity and deepen her understanding of the world. KS3 forms the groundwork for GCSE, and during the course of KS3, she will develop the ability to express her ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and in writing. We aim to ensure that your daughter will be able to:

- ❖ understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources.
- ❖ speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what she wants to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of her pronunciation and intonation.
- ❖ can write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that she has learnt.
- ❖ discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in German.

## Skills Developed

- Working independently
- Working in pairs and groups
- Communication skills
- Asking for and giving information
- Listening
- Dictation skills
- Reading skills, including reading aloud and reading for gist and detail
- Writing skills
- Understanding culture and life in German-speaking countries

## Topics covered

### Hallo!

- Asking and stating where and what something is (location & existence)
- Saying what something is like (description)
- Saying what something is not, and is not like (negation)
- Saying what people have (possession)
- Asking and answering questions about what you have

### Was machst du?

- Saying what people do (in school and at home)
- Asking and answering questions about activities (at home)
- Narrating a simple plot/story
- Talking about one or many things
- Talking about Christmas

### Die Schule

- How can I say what you and others have? (and what it is/they are like)
- How can I talk about more than one, numbers?
- How can I ask and state likes and dislikes?
- How can I ask for and give views (on school life)?
- How can I talk about myself, to and about someone else?

## **Mein Leben**

- Saying what we do
- Saying what I and others can and cannot do
- Comparing lifestyles
- Talking about life outside school
- Narrating other people's actions
- Saying when you and others do things
- Talking about movement into, and location in, places
- Asking and answering questions (about family)
- Describing one day in your life
- Saying what is where (in German-speaking countries)

## **Freizeit**

- How can I say what happens usually and what is happening now?
- How can I say what people can/must/want to do to improve their lifestyle?
- How can I compare usual activities with future summer plans?
- How can I talk about going to places?

## **Grammar topics covered:**

- Present Tense Verbs
- Basic Cases (nominative and accusative),
- Use of Adjectives
- Singular and Plural Nouns
- Possessive Adjectives
- Using negatives
- Basic word order rules

## **How we assess your daughter's progress**

- There will be regular vocabulary and grammar tests, as well as end-of-unit assessments, which will test your daughter in all four skill areas (speaking, listening, reading and writing)
- Homework will be given after every lesson (20 minutes) and may be learning for a vocabulary test, or revising for an end-of-unit test, or may be a reading exercise or preparation for a speaking activity
- All creative writing and assessments will be marked and graded, and your daughter will be given clear guidance on what she has done well and what she needs to do in order to improve.
- Progress of the class will also be assessed during lessons and your daughter's teacher will adapt the lesson according to the needs of the class.

## **How we support and develop your daughter**

- Every pupil has access to Language Gym, an online vocab and grammar learning tool
- Every pupil will be issued with a Language Guide
- Year 10 German pupils are available to mentor pupils as necessary
- We use materials from the Goethe Institut and run competitions organised by them in different year groups

## How you can help your daughter

- Help your daughter to learn new vocabulary. Everyone has different methods to learn vocabulary so help your daughter to discover which is the best one for her. Some use flashcards, some rewrite the words several times, some use the “learn, cover and write technique”, some prefer to stick the words around the house, some use apps, such as Duolingo or Quizlet. There is no “one size fits all method” – the best way is to encourage your daughter to experiment to see which suits her, and to encourage her to learn vocabulary over a longer time period. The real key to learning vocabulary is little and often.
- Help her to understand how to use a dictionary
- Listen to her reading aloud in order to improve her pronunciation, accent and fluency
- Review the feedback with your daughter following class tests, focussing on areas to improve, ensuring that she has completed corrections or has caught up with missing work
- Help her to locate German radio online or German films on Netflix (but please check the age appropriate certificate first!) Listening to German music on YouTube can really help to improve your daughter’s understanding of German and increase her enthusiasm for the language. It will also help your daughter to develop a good understanding of German culture.
- There is a wealth of resources available online; a search for any topic will quickly return many suitable resources
- Some suggested websites:
  - [Language Gym - Home \(language-gym.com\)](http://language-gym.com)
  - [languages online](http://languagesonline.com)
  - [www.languageskills.co.uk](http://www.languageskills.co.uk)
  - [www.bbc.co.uk/languages/german](http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/german)
  - [www.linguascope.com](http://www.linguascope.com)
  - [www.duolingo.com](http://www.duolingo.com)
  - [www.memrise.com](http://www.memrise.com)
- CGP also produce workbooks and revision guides