

KS3 German

Curriculum Overview 2020-2021

Core aims of German at Key Stage 3

You may have heard that German grammar is difficult and there are a crazy amount of ways to say 'the'. Yes, it's true, there are no less than eight different words for 'the' in German, but once you learn a grammar rule, it will never let you down. If you apply the rules to your work, you won't go far wrong. It's a reliable, comforting blanket of logic and language. The sense of achievement that comes with your first accurate use of the cases, or your piecing together of the word order of a complex sentence is monumental. Learning German presents many challenging opportunities as well as opportunities for personal development. It will keep your brain on its metaphorical toes.

Through your GCSE German journey, you will revisit topics studied at Key Stage 3 but you will go into each of them much more deeply. As the course goes on, you will develop a greater understanding of the German language as well as different aspects of German culture. The topics have been chosen based on the GCSE specification and we've strategically planned out when to teach them and how long to dedicate to each of them, allowing plenty of time for revision. Like the language itself, we apply logic to our planning.

„Warum soll ich Deutsch lernen?“ I hear you cry! Knowing that German is the language of business is motivational, but what does that actually mean? Germany is home to numerous international corporations and is on the front line of new technologies. It is home to a large number of economic global players such as Siemens, Volkswagen, Adidas and Lufthansa, to name but a few. Look closer to home and you'll find that one of the largest employers in the area, Bentley, is German owned. "But they all speak English!" Yes, the German school system may be set up in such a way that every German citizen knows at least some English, but don't forget that communicating with someone in their native tongue is a sign of good faith and respect that is appreciated everywhere. Knowing the language of your German business partners can greatly improve your chances for effective communication and successful professional relationships. Just in case that hasn't convinced you, here's a cool fact: German websites make up a huge part of the Internet. In fact, when it comes to domain endings that are affiliated with a particular country, Germany's *.de* is the most popular domain there is. Surprising, ja?!

Learning German will most definitely prepare you for your future, but it's not all business though. Work yes, but plenty of play too. Germany is a vast and diverse country, with something for everyone. City breaks, family holidays, seaside, lakeside, skiing, the great outdoors, arts, history, fashion, food, music, diversity... and you can sample all of this in a weekend thanks to Germany's excellent transport links!

Here in the MFL department at Brine Leas, we are fiercely proud of our visits abroad and the German exchange is one of them. Taking part in the German exchange, you will become involved with our partner school and immersed in a German community, experiencing lessons in a German high school, and visiting Christmas markets. Using the German that you have learned at school, but in real life situations, you'll realise the benefits of lifelong learning. The language taught in school will really work and you'll most certainly feel inspired to learn more and more.

It would not be fair or true to say that learning German is easy; language learning takes time, effort and dedication. The acquisition of vocabulary and grammar knowledge is relentless, but we make no apology for this! The rewards for perseverance are enormous; you never

know which doors might just open for you because of your language skills. Employers recognise that learning a language shows resilience and tenacity and will respect and value you for this. Your teachers will guide you safely through the course, preparing you for the exams and beyond, but this is your grade for a reason. Spending just five minutes a day reading through your class notes, revisiting grammar points or learning vocabulary is worth more than half an hour once a week. The dividend for trawling meticulously through your written pieces, to correct and improve them will come when you sit your writing exam and can tackle any essay question with ease and confidence. Making links to a whole host of related words from one word you've just discovered, will train your brain to find connections and break down words more easily, keeping your brain firing on all cylinders (you're welcome!).

Yes, we know how to get you through your GCSE German exams, but we like to think beyond the classroom and prepare you for your future. One day, you will leave Brine Leas and we like to think that when you do, you will go out into the world equipped with enough language skills for you to manage in most everyday situations. The curriculum in all Key Stages provides breadth and depth, equipping you with an excellent command of the language. Some of you will develop a love of German, and an insatiable thirst for more knowledge so strong that it takes you into A Level and maybe even University. It's obvious really, but being able to speak a foreign language means that you are able to communicate with literally millions more people than those who can't. We can't wait to see where your language skills take you!

Assessment

All year groups undertake two fortnightly vocabulary tests to develop core vocabulary and verbs.
All groups also undertake a formalised assessment following the study of each unit.

Homework

Homework is set weekly and is always memorising for weekly test unless otherwise stated (eg. Home learning project)

Parental/carers support

Helpful sources of information

aqa.org.uk
Memrise
Duolingo
bbc.co.uk/bitesize

zdf.de/kinder
kindernetz.de/infonetz
blinde-kuh.de

Connections to future pathways

Careers

- Interpreter
- Secondary school teacher
- Translator
- Import/export
- Travel industry
- Broadcast journalist
- Detective
- Diplomatic service officer
- Education consultant
- English as a foreign language teacher
- Import/export
- International aid/development worker
- IT
- Logistics and distribution manager
- Marketing executive
- Patent examiner
- Public relations
- Private tutor
- Project manager
- Sales executive
- Solicitor
- Tour manager
- Writer

Significant local employers include

- Bet 365
- Muller yoghurt
- Bentley
- Network Sports

Future learning

Degree courses where languages are required/useful to gain entry

- Classical Studies – useful
- Economics or Business related degrees - useful
- English - sometimes essential, always useful
- European Studies - essential, 2 languages even more useful
- Film Studies – useful
- German - essential, 2 languages even more useful
- History - useful
- History of Art - useful
- Italian - essential, 2 languages even more useful
- Law – useful
- Leisure and Tourism – very useful
- Philosophy - useful
- Speech Therapy - useful
- Teacher Training - essential in some cases, useful in all

Language graduates work for a huge variety of employers and sectors, including:

- business services
- charity work
- engineering
- media
- museums and libraries
- public administration
- teaching
- tourism
- transport and logistics.

Transferable skills

- Communication skills
- Adaptability/resilience /resourcefulness
- Independent learner
- Cultural development
- Global awareness

Year 9 Overview

Term	Knowledge	Assessment	Connections to learning
Autumn 1 + 2	Me, my family and friends		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ talking about your family ➤ discussing how well you get on with your family ➤ discussing what attracts you to someone ➤ talking about different families and future plans ➤ describing appearance and personal characteristics ➤ talking about what makes a good friend ➤ describing relationships ➤ explaining different views on marriage ➤ comparing your life as a young child to your life now ➤ possessive adjectives ➤ revise haben/sein ➤ personal pronouns ➤ using adjectives ➤ using “mit” with dative ➤ separable verbs ➤ modal verbs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Weekly vocabulary test to develop core vocabulary and verbs ➤ Formal assessment at the end of each unit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Looking for clues when listening ➤ Learning to distinguish word types ➤ Understanding questions ➤ Spotting patterns ➤ Spotting grammatical signposts ➤ Looking for near-cognates ➤ Thinking creatively in speaking ➤ Achieving a fluent translation
	Film Study: “Jenseits der Stille”		

This film study provides an opportunity to deepen students' understanding of the topics of family, friendship, relationships and growing up, and for embedded practice of the topic-specific vocabulary and grammar issues associated with it. It further provides an insight into German culture in general, and German family life in particular.

“The film tells the story of Lara, who grows up as the daughter of deaf parents, Martin and Kai. Lara herself is hearing and is fluent in sign language. Even as a young child, she serves as an interpreter for her parents in many situations, such as credit negotiations at the bank as well as her own parent-teacher conference, although not always completely truthfully.

Lara receives a clarinet for Christmas from Clarissa, her father's sister and an enthusiastic musician. Lara discovers the world of music, where her parents cannot follow her. In the years that follow, she is discovered to be a talented clarinet player. After Kai is killed in a bicycle accident, Lara's grieving father feels abandoned. When 18-year-old Lara wants to study at a music conservatory in Berlin, the family seems to break apart. The ending seems to reconcile it all: Martin tries to understand the love of music that his daughter feels, and the film comes to a careful reunion between him and Lara.”

Healthy Living

Spring
1

- talking about healthy and unhealthy eating
- talking about your eating and drinking habits
- discussing healthy and unhealthy lifestyles
- discussing teenage smoking and drinking habits
- discussing the drugs issue among teenagers
- explaining how you stay fit and healthy
- adverbs of frequency
- subordinating conjunctions
- using a variety of tenses
- subject and object pronouns
- relative pronouns

- Weekly vocabulary test to develop core vocabulary and verbs
- Formal assessment at the end of each unit

- Ignoring words that are not needed
- Using cognates and near-cognates
- Using layout to help understanding
- Reading authentic texts

Life at school/college

<p>Spring 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ giving opinions about school subjects ➤ describing a school day ➤ discussing school rules ➤ talking about your school ➤ talking about pressures at school ➤ talking about school subjects and clothes ➤ talking about what you are and are not looking forward to at school ➤ talking about what you did in the holiday ➤ telling the time ➤ revise modal verbs ➤ adjective endings ➤ giving reasons ➤ the perfect tense ➤ asking questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Weekly vocabulary test to develop core vocabulary and verbs ➤ Formal assessment at the end of each unit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Translating into German and encountering translation problems ➤ Modes of address ➤ Telling the time ➤ Using grammatical markers and categories
<p>Jobs, career choices and ambitions</p>			
<p>Summer 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ saying what jobs people do ➤ talking about part-time jobs ➤ talking about future job possibilities ➤ preparing an application for a holiday job ➤ describing jobs and places of work ➤ understanding job descriptions ➤ preparing a personal profile for job applications ➤ formal vs informal mode of address 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Weekly vocabulary test to develop core vocabulary and verbs ➤ Formal assessment at the end of each unit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ simplifying what you say ➤ listening for different ways of saying the same thing ➤ recognising the verb in a sentence ➤ using <i>von</i> plus the dative instead of the genitive.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ revise question words ➤ the future tense ➤ masculine and feminine nouns 		
Summer 2	Charity work and volunteering		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ describing community week at school ➤ understanding texts about international and local campaigns ➤ the perfect tense 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Weekly vocabulary test to develop core vocabulary and verbs ➤ Formal assessment at the end of each unit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ignoring words that are not needed ➤ Using cognates and near-cognates ➤ Using layout to help understanding ➤ Reading authentic texts