



OLD BUCKENHAM
HIGH SCHOOL

Be the best we can be

OBHS KS4 Subject Information

(Core Ebac Subject)

Title of Course:
GCSE French / German

Curriculum Leader: Mrs G. Barrett



Course Overview

Why study a language?

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In year 9 you are already well on your way to studying a language at GCSE as we have introduced elements of the GCSE course since the start of this year.

An awareness of a foreign language is a life-long skill: you don't have to be fluent to make a difference. Having even just a little of another language gives you the freedom to travel and communicate with others, whether for business or pleasure, without seeming arrogant enough to expect them to speak English.

Learning a foreign language helps you improve and understand your own language better. Moreover, once you have learnt a one foreign language, it's much easier to pick up another, so it really doesn't matter which one you learn at school.

The act of learning a foreign language reflects keen determination, outstanding communication skills and good organisational skills. In business, it's great for public relations to be able to speak to different parts of a multinational company or its suppliers in their own language regardless of whether they can speak English fluently.

A language qualification says a lot about you as a person and your outlook beyond the place you live, having a language really makes you stand out from the crowd and can give you a competitive edge in future career choices – even if you don't know what those choices may yet turn out to be!



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Course Overview

Which language will I be studying?

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Students continue to study the language they have been learning in Year 9.
It is not possible to change languages at GCSE.



Course Overview

What topics will students be studying?

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Theme 1: Identity and culture

- Me, my family and friends
- Technology in everyday life
- Free-time activities

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

- School and college
- Education post 16
- Jobs, career choices and ambitions



Course Overview

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Examination and Assessment: Examination Board: AQA

GCSE French and German are externally assessed in four exams at the end of Year 11

Exam Paper	Percentage of GCSE	Length of Exam
Listening	25%	1 hour
Reading	25%	1 hour
Writing	25%	1 hour
Speaking	25%	15 minutes



Course Overview

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Examination and Assessment: Examination Board: Edexcel

How will students be assessed throughout the course?

- Regular factual tests to check understanding and the development of revision and retrieval skills
- Regular exam question practice to apply knowledge and understanding to meet the demands of the exam questions
- End of unit tests
- Regular gap analysis and DIRT tasks
- Year 10 mock exam
- 2 x Year 11 mock exams