French and German

Edexcel

Penwortham Girls' High School

Introduction:

The GCSE in Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) gives students the opportunity to develop their ability to understand and communicate in another language while also gaining valuable insights into a different culture. It helps students to appreciate diversity and broaden their outlook on the wider world, encouraging tolerance and empathy towards others. As well as building strong communication skills, the course also develops important transferrable skills such as problem solving, resilience, and adaptability, which are highly valued by employers and further education providers.

Description of the course:

Examination Board: Edexcel Foundation and Higher Level

Building on the solid foundation established at KS3, you will revisit familiar topics such as family, hobbies, school, town, holiday and explore new themes such as careers, health, the environment and traditions. You will aim to manipulate the language so that you can write and speak with more freedom. You will develop the confidence to express more complex opinions and use tenses with greater accuracy. You will also develop a greater awareness of culture of German-speaking or French-speaking communities and countries.

How you will learn:

Through engaging, fun and challenging activities such as games, competitions, repetition activities, songs and roleplays, you will practise the four skill areas (Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing). You will continue to work independently but also in pairs and within a small group. Similar digital resources are used at KS4 and you will make use of various online resources both in class and at home such as Quizlet, Active Hub and Blooket. Your understanding of grammar and phonics will deepen and help you become a more independent linguist and learner.

Assessment:

The Edexcel MFL GCSE consists of four externally examined papers based on the following skills:

- Paper 1: Speaking 25%
- Paper 2: Listening and understanding 25%
- Paper 3: Reading and understanding 25%
- Paper 4: Writing 25%

The GCSE exam has a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9). Students must take all four question papers at the same tier. Students must complete their speaking assessment in April/May and all other assessments in May/June in any single year.

Revision guides and workbooks can be bought from school in the Autumn Term of Year 10. All vocabulary sheets will be provided in packs for each student.

Using this qualification:

Using this qualification: You will develop transferrable skills which are useful in a wide range of future careers, including critical thinking, inter-personal skills such as good communication, relationship-building skills (teamwork, trust, intercultural sensitivity, service orientation), collaborative problem solving, adaptability, resilience and independence. Studying a foreign language improves your oral and written skills in other subjects too as you develop a greater grammar awareness.