

Course information

German S1-S3



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The aim of the course is to encourage communicative competence in German.

Through learning German you will:

- develop your language skills
- appreciate the importance of learning a language
- develop an awareness of the opportunities associated with German
- increase your understanding and enjoyment of another culture
- support your personal development and learn skills for work and leisure



Course Content:

- You will have the opportunity to make yourself acquainted with a new foreign language
- During the course you will learn how to introduce yourself and hold a simple conversation with a fluent speaker. You will learn how to talk about your family, school, food and health, place where you live as well as you will gain cultural knowledge about German speaking countries.
- The course aims are to develop Listening, Talking, Reading and Writing skills. Some tasks will be inter-linked. For example, a Writing task may prepare you for a Talking task.
- The balance between these skills will change at various stages. For example, there will more Writing activities as the course progresses.
- Regular homework is expected. Set homework task include: learning words/phrases for vocabulary exercises, finishing off class work and preparing for assessments. It is also expected that you will do voluntary homework, e.g. regular revision of grammar and vocabulary in order to consolidate your learning in class.

Examples of Activities

Listening and Talking

- Conversing with your teacher, group tasks with your peers or role-playing
- Listening for information and responding to it
- Giving a short presentation about a certain topic

Reading

- Reading texts for enjoyment
- Answering questions based on a text
- Using a dictionary

Writing

- Writing about yourself and offering opinions
- Correcting your own work, perhaps with the support of your teacher or a member of the class.



Resources

You will have access to dictionaries in class. If you wish to purchase a German dictionary for use at home, you will be advised on the best one to buy.

You are also advised to access the excellent media resources such as:

- o <http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/german/>
- o <http://www.yesgerman.com/> - where you can practice grammar
- o <http://learn-to-speak-german.de/learn-with-songs> - where you can listen and learn German songs
- o www.dw.de - here you can follow news from German speaking countries

Progress

At the beginning of S1, pupils' experiences of German will vary. Do not worry about this as the course is designed to meet the needs of all pupils. At the end of S2, you will be asked to choose between Gaelic and German.

Your progress in German will be shown, for example, through:

- Becoming more independent and relying on less support
- Accessing and undertaking longer and more complicated texts and tasks in Listening and Reading
- Giving responses in Talking and Writing tasks which will be longer, more complex and more accurate
- Increasing awareness of language rules and how they work
- Becoming more confident in starting a conversation keeping it going



Assessment

- Assessment will focus on: Listening, Talking, Reading and Writing
- Your teacher will gather evidence for assessment as part of your day-to-day learning
- You will also be giving specific assessment tasks which will provide evidence of your progress. Tasks may include reading a German passage and showing your understanding by answering questions. You may also be asked to prepare for a Talking assessment about a certain topic.