



NOTTINGHAM GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

GDST
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM GUIDE

GERMAN

AQA

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

At least grade 7 in GCSE German.



“Our German teachers are passionate and ensure that lessons are interactive, challenging and cater for each girl. Being a German student at NGHS makes me stand out from the crowd and builds my confidence in speaking.”

German is the most widely spoken language in the EU. Germany is the world's second biggest exporter. It is the economic powerhouse of Europe.

WHY LEARN GERMAN?

Did you know that:

- only six per cent of the global population are native English speakers
- 77% of British exporters believe they lose business because they can't speak other languages
- German made products from companies such as Siemens, BMW or Bosch are all around us. And it's not only German companies who are ready to employ people with German language skills. UK companies repeatedly say that they need these skills amongst new recruits
- British business is over reliant on trading partners who speak English so people with language skills have a distinct advantage. Germany is the UK's second largest trading partner, after the USA. That makes learning German an excellent choice for young people wanting to maximise their employment chances

GERMAN AT A LEVEL AT NGHS

The focus in German at A Level shifts towards a greater understanding of the people and what really makes them tick. By exploring how other nations and cultures deal with hot issues such as the legalisation of drugs, the potential dangers of the internet, immigration and the consequences of climate change, many students also come to discover their own attitudes, principles and, perhaps, prejudices. You will come to look at situations in an analytical way and learn to view topical issues from several points of view.

You will have four or five lessons a week, depending on class size, and be taught by two specialist teachers. You will also have weekly conversation classes with our German language assistant. The small size of classes allows for a very individualised approach, and it is very easy to keep a track of progress and nip problems in the bud!

Students will develop knowledge and understanding, through the language of study, of aspects of the society, culture and history of the country or countries where German is spoken, studying one theme in Year 12 and two themes in Year 13 from each of the following areas of interest:

- social issues and phenomena
- politics, current affairs and history
- In Year 12 students will study 1 book or film
- In Year 13, students will study another book or film (2 books or 1 book and 1 film in total)
- In addition, students will also be carrying out an Individual Research project

“The German department at NGHS offers an excellent range and variety of resources, along with a native German language assistant who holds individual speaking sessions, which help to build confidence in speaking and give us access to updated vocabulary and idioms.”

German is a highly respected degree course, due to its complexity but also because it is increasingly rare. It can of course be studied alone or in combination. We encourage students to take part in the Halsbury Work Experience Scheme in order to hone language skills in a working environment.

The Daily Telegraph conducted a survey amongst business leaders a few years ago to find out which language was most highly prized; German came out top. Given the ubiquity of German brand names and businesses around us, this is hardly a surprise. From Adidas to Volkswagen, there is a wealth of opportunity. Germany is currently the UK's largest non-English speaking trading partner and is the world's 3rd largest exporter.

Former German teacher and author John le Carré recently summed it up beautifully, saying that to speak a foreign language is an act of friendship and mediation. Any employer worth their salt can see that these vital communication skills, so rare amongst British graduates, are to be highly prized.

*Click here to watch the course introductory video
from Head of German, Mr Michael Tracey*

In order to join us in the Sixth Form, we require an average of grade 6 across eight GCSE subjects, including English and Mathematics. See individual subjects for any specific requirements for study at A Level.

For detailed course information on all of the A Level subjects please visit the AQA, Edexcel or OCR websites.

If you have any questions about any aspect of the admissions process, please call 0115 935 4444 or email admissions@not.gdst.net



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