

TITLE	GERMAN (A LEVEL)
BOARD	AQA
INTRODUCTION	The A level course is designed to enable students to develop their linguistic skills alongside their understanding of the culture and society of countries where German is spoken.
COURSE STRUCTURE	The areas of study form two broad themes: social issues and trends and culture. Students will study a variety of topics such as family, communication technology, lifestyles and multiculturalism in German speaking society. Students will also look at artistic culture, e.g. film and literature and aspects of political culture, making students more aware of the political systems, the role of the EU and the impact of politics on the individual and society. Throughout their studies, they will learn the language in the context of German-speaking countries and the issues and influences which have shaped them. Students will have the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of their choice.
ASSESSMENT	At A level there are 3 examinations: Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing. Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes • 100 marks in total • 50% of A level. (Comprehension and Translation.) Paper 2: Writing: 2 hours • 80 marks in total • 20% of A level. (Essays based on literary texts and/or a film.) Paper 3: Speaking: Oral exam: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time) • 60 marks in total • 30% of A level. (Discussion of a stimulus card and presentation and discussion of individual research project.)
GENERAL COMMENTS	The course offers enjoyment, intellectual stimulation and challenge to students with a real curiosity about the language and culture of the German-speaking world. Students should be prepared to take part in discussions, reading activities, role-plays and comprehension exercises using a variety of materials, such as textbooks, newspapers, magazines, TV and the Internet. Students will be expected to undertake additional independent work to support their learning. First-hand experience of a German-speaking country is encouraged during the period of study.
PROGRESSION	Students with the ability to speak one or more foreign languages are becoming increasingly sought after and students with a post-GCSE qualification in German have acquired skills and knowledge of real value in future employment, leisure and further study. The A level prepares students for traditional language courses offered by most universities, but linguists are also in great demand in banking, insurance, marketing, business, engineering, law and many other areas, and degree courses including a language element are becoming more and more popular, many of which offer the opportunity to study abroad for part of the course.
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	In order to study A level German you must have followed a GCSE course and obtained at least a grade 6, and ideally a grade 7, or be a fluent speaker with/without qualifications.

If you have any questions regarding the courses please contact Mrs Hogg.