

MFL

French & German

Curriculum Intent

The Modern Foreign Languages Curriculum at Turves Green Boys' School aims to enable pupils to communicate using the four main skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. The curriculum provides opportunities to develop communication skills, so that pupils can initiate and develop conversations, expressing thoughts spontaneously and justifying opinions, as well as using repair strategies to cope with unfamiliar situations.

Pupils will learn how to use grammar accurately to talk about events in the past, present and future with increasing accuracy throughout KS3 and KS4, developing their vocabulary to use a wide range of words, as well as deepening their use of sophisticated language structures.

Studying Modern Foreign Languages should lead to a broader outlook on the world as pupils get the opportunity to work with authentic sources and appreciate a range of written and spoken work, including literary texts, which encourages an awareness of the culture and identity of countries and communities where the Target Language is spoken.

The practical skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing developed in Modern Foreign Languages, including Translation skills into and from the Target Language, as well as listening and understanding clear speech at near normal speed should not only deepen the knowledge of how language works, but also prepare pupils for the immediate use of the Target Language and prepare pupils for future study, whether in school, college, Higher Education or employment.

KS3

Identify and use tenses or other structures which convey the present, past, and future as appropriate to the language being studied.

Use and manipulate a variety of key grammatical structures and patterns, including voices and moods, as appropriate

Develop and use a wide-ranging and deepening vocabulary that goes beyond their immediate needs and interests, allowing them to give and justify opinions and take part in discussion about wider issues.

Use accurate grammar, spelling and punctuation.

Listen to a variety of forms of spoken language to obtain information and respond appropriately.

Transcribe words and short sentences that they hear with increasing accuracy.

Initiate and develop conversations, coping with unfamiliar language and unexpected responses, making use of important social conventions such as formal modes of address.

Speak coherently and confidently, with increasingly accurate pronunciation and intonation.

Read and show comprehension of original and adapted materials from a range of different sources, understanding the purpose, important ideas and details, and provide an accurate English translation of short, suitable material.

Read literary texts in the language [such as stories, songs, poems and letters], to stimulate ideas, develop creative expression and expand understanding of the language and culture.

Write prose using an increasingly wide range of grammar and vocabulary, write creatively to express their own ideas and opinions, and translate short written text accurately into the foreign language.

KS4

At KS4, pupils have the opportunity to study either French or German. We use the AQA Exam Board. Pupils are expected to provide information and opinions about these themes relating to their own experiences and those of other people, including people in countries/communities where German is spoken.

- Theme 1: Identity and Culture
- Me, my family and my friends
- Relationships with family and friends
- Marriage/Partnership
- Technology in Everyday Life
- Social Media
- Mobile Technology
- Free Time Activities

- Music
- Cinema and TV
- Food and Eating Out
- Sport
- Customs and Festivals in French-/German-Speaking Countries / Communities
- Theme 2: Local, National, International and Global Areas of Interest
- Home, Town, Neighbourhood and Region
- Social Issues
- Charity / Voluntary Work
- Healthy / Unhealthy Living
- Global Issues
- The Environment
- Poverty / Homelessness
- Travel and Tourism
- Theme 3: Current and Future Study and Employment
- My Studies
- Life at School / College
- Education Post 16
- Jobs, Career Choices and Ambitions

GCSE Exam

GCSE French and German have a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9). Pupils must take all four question papers at the same tier. All question papers must be taken in the same series.

Listening

Written Exam: 35 minutes (Foundation Tier), 45 minutes (Higher Tier)

Comprehension of recordings

25% of GCSE

Speaking

Non-exam assessment. Role Play, Photo Card, General Conversation

7-9 minutes (Foundation Tier) + preparation time

10 – 12 minutes (Higher Tier) + preparation time

25% of GCSE

Reading

Written Exam: 45 minutes (Foundation Tier), 60 minutes (Higher Tier)

Comprehension of texts + translation into English

25% of GCSE

Writing

Foundation: Describe a Photo, Short Passage (approx. 40 words), Translation from English into French/German (sentences – minimum 35 words), Structured Writing Task (approx. 90 words)

Higher: Structured Writing Task (approx. 90 words), Open-Ended Writing Task (approx. 150 words), Translation from English into German (paragraph - minimum 50 words)

Career Prospects

A GCSE in French / German is a pre-requisite to study A-Level French / German. A GCSE in French / German is very desirable as an entry requirement for many university courses and can also lead to opportunities to live and work abroad. There are opportunities to continue studying Languages alongside many other subjects at degree, e.g. Law with French / German, European Studies (History with French / German) and many more.

The ability to speak French or German would support any career working for a large company. Typical careers involving languages include: Journalism, Sales Executive, Tour Manager, Transport and Logistics, International Aid/Development, Government Services, Espionage, Engineering, Teaching English as a Foreign Language and many more.