



St. Olave's Grammar School, Orpington, Kent

Faculty of Modern Foreign Languages – 2019-20

Staffing

Mrs L. Proboziak	B.A. Hons, M.A. (Somerville College, Oxford) – German - Head of German
Miss S. Mahadevan	B.A. Hons, M.St. (Worcester College and Oriel College, Oxford) – French and German – Head of French
Mr D. Bowden	B.A. Hons (Lancaster) - French and German – Teacher of Languages
Ms G. Gardiner	M.A., M.M.L. (Newnham College, Cambridge) - French and Russian – Teacher of Languages
Mme C. Payne	French language assistant
Mme N. Komuves	French language assistant
Frau G. Cranenburgh	German language assistant

Ethos

We encourage a vibrant classroom atmosphere with lessons that aim to be interactive and challenging, with high levels of participation. A steady stream of students gain places in MFL at the universities of Oxford or Cambridge. There is a considerable focus on comprehension of authentic spoken and written material, and on oral practice, as well as on essay planning and translation. A firm grammatical foundation is established in order to deepen the students' knowledge about how language works and vocabulary is continually extended. Cultural knowledge of the French/German-speaking world is embedded in our Schemes of Work through watching films and listening to authentic music, as well as reading magazines and literature. Interim assessments are often based on past papers so that students are fully familiar with the demands of the exams.

The *Onatti* theatre company regularly performs plays in French and German to students in Years 9 and 10. Sixth formers take turns to present on language-related issues in our successful Languages Society and also write articles for and edit the *Languages Journal*. We have also successfully taken part in the *UK Linguistics Olympiad*, as well as the *Oxford German Olympiad*, the *Oxford French Fiction Competition*, among others. Sixth-form students are encouraged to attend Open Days and lectures at high-ranking universities, as well as plays, and visit film study days at the *British Film Institute*.

Facilities

Modern languages teaching takes place in a suite of four first-floor rooms. Each room has a whiteboard and projector, and there are display cabinets in the rooms and the corridor. There are good resources including books, stationery, DVDs, etc. The school's wireless ICT network with full Internet facilities is available to staff who all have a laptop, and there are further computers in the Common room and also access in the library and the IT rooms. Photocopying can be given to the Reprographics Department next to the Library.

Curriculum

The timetable is organised on a 60-period fortnightly cycle with periods lasting 50 minutes. Most groups are timetabled for fortnightly language lessons in one of the IT suites, and we subscribe to various websites.

Year 7

French and German are taught in Year 7 in forms (2 French and 2 German), with 6 periods a fortnight.

Year 8

All 4 forms continue with 4 lessons a fortnight of French or German, and, in addition, students can choose to study German, French or Latin as a second language for 5 lessons a fortnight.

Year 9 – Year 11

Pupils must take at least one language to GCSE and may take two. In KS4 all languages have 5 lessons a fortnight, including 1-2 fortnightly sessions with the language assistant in Years 10 and 11. Students follow the AQA specification (GCSE).

Year 12

French and German are offered at AS level, following the AQA specification. Pupils have 10 periods a fortnight, plus a weekly session with the language assistant.

Year 13

French and German are offered at A-Level, leading to terminal examinations with AQA. Pupils have 11 periods a fortnight, plus a weekly session with the language assistant.

Course books and Materials

French

Year 7	Studio 1
Year 8	Studio 2
Year 9	Studio GCSE AQA French
Years 10/11	Studio GCSE AQA French
Year 12	AS AQA French
Year 13	A-Level AQA French

German

Year 7	Stimmt 1
Year 8	Stimmt 2
Year 9	Stimmt GCSE AQA German
Years 10/11	Stimmt GCSE AQA German
Year 12	AS AQA German
Year 13	A-Level AQA German

Trips and Activities

French

Year 7	1-day-trip to Boulogne
Year 8	1-day-trip to Aachen Christmas Market
Year 9	8-day French exchange with the <i>Institution de la Croix Blanche</i> in Bondues near Lille, Nord-Pas-de-Calais
Year 10	5-day residential visit to Normandy
Years 12/13	3-day residential trip to Paris

German

Year 7	1-day-trip to Boulogne
Year 8	1-day-trip to Aachen Christmas Market
Year 10	8-day German exchange with the <i>Integrierte Gesamtschule</i> in Wilhelmshaven, Germany.
Years 12/13	4-day residential trip to Berlin

Language Assistants

Sixth-form students have weekly sessions with the assistants whose role it is to improve students' oral skills and help prepare for their chosen oral topics. Students in Years 10 and 11 have fortnightly conversation lessons in small groups.

Inset

There is an MFL budget for CPD and staff are encouraged to go on relevant Inset in order to keep up to date with the latest specifications, courses and methodology. Our regular Faculty meetings have a clear focus on Teaching & Learning, and we aim to work together as much as possible, supporting each other's professional development and sharing resources and ideas.