



Welcome to the Four Stones MAT A Level MFL Team

Welcome to languages at Key Stage 5

We are delighted to offer both French and German and are pleased that you are showing an interest in continuing your language learning journey beyond GCSE.

Languages are now more important than ever and it is our passion and ambition to help you get where you want to be. Through your language lessons we aim to inspire and to continue to enthuse you in your love of language and culture.

We can't wait to meet you.

Meet the Department

French at KS5:

Mrs S. Collins, Mrs Rogers, Mr Kilmartin, Mrs Woodall,

German at KS5:

Miss Perks, Mrs K. Collins & Mrs Pitt

Meet the KS5 French Department



Mrs S Collins

Has lived and worked in France, Austria, Belgium & Germany.
A specialist in French film & all things cultural. Loves a bit of pair work and fact finding.



Mrs Woodall

Has lived and worked in Montpellier and Bielefeld (as well as a few years in Mexico and Indonesia!). Loves all of the topics covering contemporary issues, and in her eyes, there is nothing better than a good debate! Always one for a good read, she is our expert on No et Moi.



Mrs Rogers

Is a French native speaker from the north of France and has lived in the UK for almost 25 years.
She loves linguistics, grammar, literature and films in a variety of languages including French and Spanish.

Mr Kilmartin

Has lived and worked in both France and Germany as well as Switzerland. Is a passionate polyglot Mr Kilmartin and enjoys studying syntax as much as culture.

Meet the KS5 German Department



Miss Perks

Has lived and worked near Stuttgart in Germany, and spent many years as an interpreter. Our expert on Der Vorleser and also mad about grammar and linguistics!
Even speaks Greek too!



Mrs K Collins

Lover of all things grammar. Having lived near Cologne in Germany, she developed a love of German 13th century and contemporary architecture along with European politics.



Mrs Pitt

Has experienced the business end of MFL application working for international companies. Having lived in France and worked in Germany, she loves the buzz of knowing another language. Always hot on vocab learning.

Qualification

This is a linear A Level exam with 3 exams at the end of Year 13.

1. Spoken: One photo card on the A Level themes and the Individual Research project: 21-23 minutes. 30%
2. Listening & Reading to include Translation: 2 hours 30. 50%
3. Writing Paper: One question on literary text & one on the film: 2 hours. 20%

Course pre-requirements

- A love of all things 'foreign'.
- Dedication and commitment.
- Creative spirit and resilience.
- The ability to work independently - got to learn your vocab.
- It also helps to be a little bit opinionated!

What you can expect in your lessons

Small bespoke classes:

Students from King Charles 1, Haybridge and Hagley RC.

9h/fortnight of languages: a block of 2/3 on a morning (separated by break time) and a double lesson on an afternoon

All lessons start with a quiz (review of previous knowledge, vocabulary, grammar)

We conduct extensive **speaking activities**, such as role play, debates, Q&A so be ready to talk!

You will be exposed to a **variety of resources** to consolidate your learning, such as textbook, grammar workbook, theme revision workbook, a reading novel, study guides etc.

Culture: Everything is based in context and within the French/German speaking world

Homework is set at the end of each lesson block and you will have a week to complete it.

Typical hwk would include vocab learning, reading comprehension, written task & research

What you will study

Core content:

1. Social issues and trends
2. Political and artistic culture
3. Grammar

French	
Y12	Y13
social trends	social issues
The changing nature of family	positive features of a diverse society
The 'cyber-society'	life for the marginalised
The place of voluntary work	how criminals are treated
artistic culture	political life
a culture proud of its heritage	teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment
contemporary francophone music	demonstrations and strikes-who holds the power?
cinema - the 7th Art	politics and immigration

German	
Y12	Y13
social issues and trends	multiculturalism
the changing state of the family	immigration
the digital world	integration
youth culture	racism
Artistic culture	political life
festivals and traditions	Germany and the European Union
art and architecture	politics and youth
cultural life in Berlin, past and present	German re-unification and its consequences

What you will study

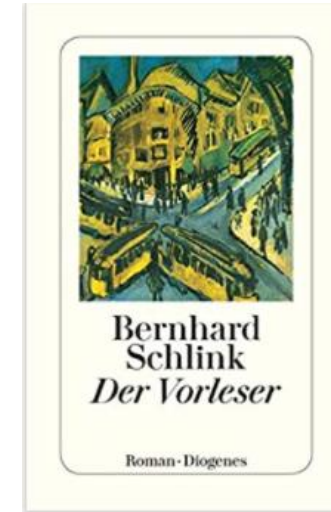
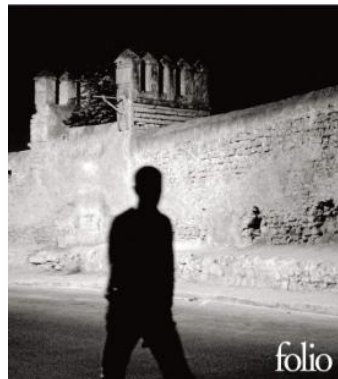
In addition we study a film and a book.

Film: **La Haine** Multi Award winning, thought provoking film depicting life in the suburbs of Paris for 3 friends all descended from first generation immigrants.

Book: **L'Étranger (The outsider)** a French bestseller (also available in English) which is set in Algeria & discusses societal norms. Why did Meursault kill?



Albert Camus
Prix Nobel de littérature
L'Étranger



Film: **Goodbye Lenin** Award winning film set in East Berlin at the time of reunification. We witness the end of East Germany and the beginnings of a new reunified country through the eyes of the Kerner family.

Book: **Der Vorleser** A parable dealing with Germany's reaction to the Second World War and the Holocaust. Der Vorleser has won several awards and been translated into 45 different languages.

What you will study

We also prepare our **Individual Research Presentation (IRP)**. This is your independent piece based on an aspect of the French/German Speaking World which interests you.

In your speaking exam you will present your topic and then discuss and debate with your teacher issues which arise from your findings.

Topics which may interest you could include:

- How does French / German society protect its language and culture?
- The history and achievements of Les Restos du Coeur
- The history and role of rugby in France. How can it compete with other nations?
- May 1968: an analysis of its causes and consequences
- The consequences of Algerian independence
- The reunification of Germany
- Gastarbeiter and their contribution to Germany
- Hitler's rise to power
- The leadership of Angela Merkel



Going further

We provide our students with an extensive list of proactive tasks to further boost their linguistic abilities, such as listening to podcasts & songs, watching films, a French & German reading library and more!

We encourage our Year 12 & 13 students to support younger students in their learning of a foreign language.

The options to join KS3 trips – Cologne / Paris / Husum

Students have attended webinars online from Bristol University, Warwick University & The British Film Institute supporting their film studies. As well as attending workshops at Warwick, Birmingham and Oxford University.

Reading or watching anything in the target language will boost your cultural knowledge, vocabulary and understanding. There's an abundance of films and series on Netflix, Disney+ and Amazon Prime.

Student Testimonials



‘Having the opportunity to study a language at A Level is not only a great way of improving our language skills, but it also gives the opportunity to discuss many contemporary issues from a different view point, through the lens of countries which we don’t ordinarily hear a lot about’.

‘We have learnt so much more than just to speak French. I love the debates and discussion; They have given me so much more confidence.’

‘Working in small classes is fantastic as there is far more 1:1 interaction with the teachers and we are able to get immediate feedback. There are more opportunities to practise our speaking skills, in particular, as we don’t have to wait for everybody to have a go.’

‘Our teachers are really knowledgeable and provide us with a wide range of resources – texts, magazine articles, videos, films etc – to support the development of both our linguistic skills and subject knowledge.’



Career Pathways

Recent students have read languages at Cambridge, Oxford, Nottingham, Bristol and Lancaster, as well as at German universities.

Languages go well with every other subject - English, Maths, History, Sciences, Music, Art, Law, Politics, Sociology.

It's not just about continuing with languages – Top universities consider language A Level as very desirable due to the skills needed. Degrees are available combining a language and most other subjects.

Beyond this, you could become:

A translator / interpreter

An academic researcher

A journalist

A lawyer

A political risk analyst

A marketing executive

A diplomatic service officer

A teacher

A tour manager

A sales executive

Social media manager

International aid worker

Language analyst for security services

A member of the armed forces (Army, RAF, Marines)

And much much more!!