

STEP UP TO 6TH FORM

KIMBERLEY SCHOOL TRANSITION INFORMATION

German A Level AQA

COURSE DETAILS

Overview

A Level German students will enjoy a wide range of opportunities both in employment and Higher Education. Success in this qualification makes prospective employers take note; they know they will have before them a disciplined, hardworking and skilled applicant with that very handy extra dimension of proficiency in a second language. A modern foreign language like German can be studied on its own – in terms of language, linguistics, literature etc – or be combined with a range of other subjects, for example when reading for a joint honours degree in German and Philosophy (to name but one). German A level students develop strong problem-solving, communication and teamwork skills, much valued in a variety of workplaces and when applying for HE courses.



Aims & Themes

At Kimberley we continue to work with the AQA exam board for German A level (the same board that we use for GCSE). A level study further develops those GCSE skills, and students have the time and space to become more confident, fluent and creative with the language. As your knowledge and skills expand, and your horizons broaden, you will explore social themes in the German-speaking world, such as Youth Culture (including fashion and music), Art and Architecture, Multiculturalism (including immigration, integration, racism), and Politics (the EU, youth politics, the reunification of Germany); the uniquely special city of Berlin gets its own module on this course, and we look at its history as well as its vibrant and diverse contemporary culture. For a separate paper, we study in depth a German film (Good Bye, Lenin!) and a German novel (Der Vorleser). For the main part of your speaking test, you have the opportunity to research a topic of your choice – this can be almost anything or anyone related to the German-speaking World.

EXAMS

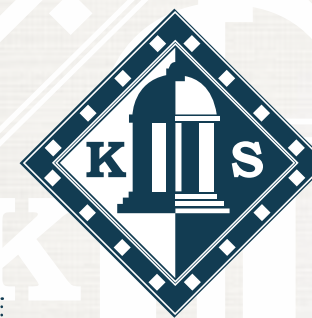
Paper 1
Listening, Reading,
Writing 2hrs30min
Paper 2
Writing 2hrs
Paper 3
Speaking 23min



LINK TO THE SPECIFICATION

See a detailed document of what we will cover in this course:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/as-and-a-level/german-7662>



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Focus

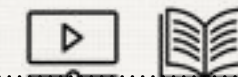
Classes tend to be small, with supportive teachers who will know you well and guide you to become an increasingly independent user of German. We actively encourage A level students to take part in visits to Germany wherever possible. German A level can act as a stepping stone to other disciplines at university or open doors in the world of work. German graduates can enter careers in interpreting, translating, teaching and lecturing, journalism, tourism, diplomacy and many more.

Work you can do to prepare for A Level study

Regular Input

- Retain what you have learned already, as it is a considerable amount and 100% useful for A level. Keep GCSE vocabulary and grammar alive. Know how to form the different tenses. Try to read a little bit of German every day.
- Use GCSE revision guides to keep practising. Record yourself and listen back – challenge yourself to speak for 1 minute about yourself and your family (for example).
- Listen to the news in German – just two minutes per day. It will be hard at first but you can expect to understand it near perfectly by the end of Year 13. A very good version is on tagesschau – search 'tagesschau in hundert sekunden': <https://www.tagesschau.de/multimedia/video/video-700657.html>
- Specific research tasks and resources on **Good Bye, Lenin!** and **Der Vorleser** will be set.
- General knowledge of Germany from World War Two to the present day, including the reunification of Germany in 1990, is helpful. Politicians who have shaped Germany's development in this period include Willy Brandt, Helmut Kohl, Erich Honecker, Angela Merkel, Michael Gorbachev (he is Russian).

FILMS & BOOKS



Die fetten Jahre sind vorbei (The Edukators; film)
Die Welle (The Wave; film)
Tschick (Goodbye Berlin; film)
Das Leben der Anderen (The Lives of Others; film)
The Shortest History of Germany – by James Hawes
City-lit Berlin – edited by Heather reyes and Katy



USEFUL RESOURCE LINKS

www.kerboodle.com (Kimberley GCSE German students currently have access to A level resources)
www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/germanindex.html
www.duolingo.com
<https://quizlet.com/en-gb>
www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z8j2tfr

