



Dear Parent/Carer,

The curriculum is reviewed annually for each year group to ensure the most appropriate and best courses are available for our students. These reviews include a thorough analysis of external exam results, student uptake at GCSE and A-level entry points, local and national data, the accreditation demands of the Department for Education and exam board developments.

Following the curriculum reviews earlier this year, in consideration of a wide range of factors, including those listed above, the decision had been taken to remove German as a GCSE option for students in Year 9, starting in September 2024.

Modern Foreign Languages are a key part of our curriculum and contribute to the broad and balanced offer for students. In order to give all students the choice of two GCSE languages in Year 9, students in Year 7 currently studying German will continue to do so for the rest of this academic year, before switching to study Spanish for Year 8. They will follow a specially designed scheme of work that will enable them to choose Spanish or French as a GCSE option for the start of Year 9 if they so wish. It is not possible to make this change mid-year due to restrictions in timetabling and staff language specialism.

With the decision having been finalised, work now starts on developing the scheme of work and timetabling model for Modern Foreign Languages in Year 8. Should you have any questions, these should be directed to the Head of Year 7 office.

We recognise this change may come as a surprise to some students. There is a great deal still to gain for the remainder of your child's Year 7 German studies in the subject itself, as well as transferrable skills that will benefit other Modern Foreign Languages and their curriculum more widely. We look forward to all students continuing to work hard in their German lessons for the remainder of this year, before embracing the new opportunity to learn Spanish in Year 8.

Yours faithfully,

Ms A Fearon  
Headteacher