

March 2017

Dear Parent

Re: Year 7 MFL Language Option and Year 8 curriculum

As you are aware, your child currently studies both French and German. However, from September he/she will study just one of these languages and so we ask them at this point to state a preference for the language they wish to study during Years 8 and 9. This will result in increased curriculum time for the chosen language and will accelerate rates of progress. They will continue to study that same language through until the end of Year 9 and may opt to continue with their chosen language to GCSE.

We understand that students may find this choice a difficult one. Topic areas in any language to GCSE are the same, as is teaching methodology and once one language is mastered, a second is more easily acquired at a later stage. We would not necessarily advise that students pay close attention to assessment point grades as these are a snapshot of performance, using a brand new assessment system, measured against completely new GCSE criteria. We would therefore recommend that your child simply chooses the language with which they feel most comfortable and which they enjoy the most.

I must add, however, that we cannot guarantee to meet your child's preference, although clearly we will try. If your child has no strong preference or does not return the form, we will simply allocate him or her to either French or German, as necessary.

I would also like to make you aware that as students move into Years 8 and 9 the way in which we organise teaching classes changes. Students will remain in sets for maths but will also be placed in sets for English, science, technology and modern foreign languages. Teaching classes will also be rearranged and students will no longer be grouped as 7CEL etc. The MFL choice that your child makes can influence how the groups are put together. Tutor groups will not change. If you have any queries or concerns about this, please contact me as soon as possible.

Students should return their option forms to Pupil Reception by **Tuesday 25 April**.

Yours faithfully

K Higgins
Assistant Headteacher

Year 7 Language Option Form

Name: _____ **Teaching Class:** _____ **Tutor Group:** _____

Please indicate your choice by ticking the box below.

My choice is: German French I have no strong preference

Signed (student) _____ Date: _____

Signed (parent) _____ Date: _____