



21 June 2019

Dear Parents

On 11 June your daughter had the opportunity to learn some German during our annual Modern Foreign Languages Day as we are offering this as a language option next year. All of the pupils enjoyed this experience and we were very impressed with how much they learnt in such a short amount of time. Your daughter now has a choice of studying two languages next year, one of which could be German. Many of the present Upper 4 opted to study German this year and they have successfully completed the AQA Foundation Certificate of Secondary Education in Upper 4 to the same high standard as those who continued with Spanish and French. A good number of them have also opted to carry on with German at GCSE. I would like to assure you that, as they have a good linguistic foundation in other Modern Foreign Languages, pupils do progress quickly in German.

I have spoken to Lower 4 giving an overview of the three languages and points they should consider. For example, Spanish and German pronunciation are very straight forward and it is easier to work out spellings from the sounds. This is more challenging in French. In Spanish verb endings are very important as they do not use the subject pronouns (I, you he, they etc.) and work in a similar way to Latin. There are more words in French and Spanish which are easy to recognise, which is not the case in German.

I would encourage pupils to speak to Mrs. Wilson (Spanish), Mrs. Wheatley (French) and Mrs. Brown (German), if they would like further advice on their Language choices. Please can you indicate below the combination of languages that your daughter wishes to take in Upper 4 and return the slip to Mrs Wilson by Monday 1 July.

Yours sincerely

Mrs F. Wilson
Head of Modern Foreign Languages

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To Mrs Wilson, Gateways School

My daughter..... would like to study the following language combination.

Please tick one of the combinations.

- French and Spanish
- Spanish and German
- French and German

Parent's signature..... Date.....

Headmistress: Dr T Johnson BSc (Hons), PhD, PGCE