



Quality of Education
Curriculum Intent Statement
Subject: MFL



CURRICULUM VISION

Studying either French or German at Bedale opens a world of new possibilities and opportunities, and we aim to broaden students' horizons and equip them with a solid foundation of knowledge and communication skills to encourage them to flourish with courage, commitment and compassion as independent global citizens. With nearly 230 million speakers of French worldwide, and German being a prominent language in the world of business, it is imperative that we adapt to keep up with the global community in which we live. We therefore aim to foster creativity and bravery in students' language use, nurture their confidence to use and adapt what they know, whilst providing a solid foundation of knowledge to work from. Through languages, we promote students' curiosity, and deepen their understanding, not only of their own identity and culture but also those of other countries. For those who wish to expand their knowledge, then Spanish Club for beginners is also offered for teachers and students alike, and as a team, we aim to support in any way we can, the interests in further languages.

CURRICULUM RATIONALE

In KS3, the curriculum is designed to ensure all students are able to participate from the outset, with a 'have a go' attitude, across subjects relating to many aspects of their life and interests in the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Our new Year 7 students come from a wide range of feeder primary schools – and have received a varying experience of Languages at Key Stages 1 and 2. Therefore, the first part of our Key Stage 3 curriculum¹ is designed to embed the key linguistic skills needed by all pupils to communicate. In both languages, we start with sounds, building to words, phrases, sentences and eventually longer texts. These skills are built upon in year 8 and move on to include studying past and future events. Throughout Key Stage 3, students are exposed to GCSE-style assessment activities, including the course-specific tasks such as describing a photograph and the vocabulary necessary to achieve detailed and strong responses. By practising and developing these skills with new language and linguistic tools, with the aim of developing a level of spontaneity and confidence.

At Key Stage 4, students follow the AQA (9-1) French² or German³. We believe that this is the right course for our students as it provides a logical progression from Key Stage 3 taking a thematic approach. Students journey through the topics of 'Culture and Identity', 'the World we live in', looking outwards to French and German speaking countries, like Switzerland, Austria, Madagascar, amongst others and departments overseas, like l'Île de la Réunion, and then through 'Education and the World of Work'.

Plans are in motion to offer alternate trips to Germany and France, linking with our twin town in France, Azay-sur-Cher and a local school in Germany, over the course of the 5 years.

1. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-languages-programmes-of-study>
2. <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/french-8658>
3. <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/german-8668>