

## German – Year 8

### **Curriculum Intent**

In Year 8, German builds on the secure phonics and grammatical foundations established in Year 7, developing greater accuracy, range and independence in language use. Students deepen their understanding of German sentence structure and verb patterns while extending their ability to communicate across present, past and future time frames. The curriculum is carefully sequenced to strengthen grammatical control, expand vocabulary and support increasingly extended spoken and written responses, preparing students well for the demands of Year 9 and beyond.

### What Students Will Study Across the Year

#### **Autumn Term – Phonics Development and Sentence Accuracy**

Students continue to refine their understanding of German phonics, focusing on a wider range of sound–spelling correspondences, vowel length and consonant clusters. They consolidate present tense verb forms, including regular verbs and key irregular verbs such as *sein* and *haben*, and strengthen understanding of negation. Students revisit noun gender and articles and develop confidence using plural nouns. Language is applied to giving personal information, expressing opinions and asking and answering questions with increasing accuracy.

#### **Autumn and Spring Terms – Past Experiences and Word Order**

Students extend their grammatical range through the introduction and consolidation of the **perfect tense**, using both *haben* and *sein*. They learn to apply correct word order with fronted time adverbials and conjunctions, and develop understanding of direct object pronouns. Vocabulary and grammar are applied to talking about journeys, holidays and recent experiences. Cultural learning explores German-speaking regions including Austria and Switzerland.

#### **Spring Term – Opinions, Comparison and Description**

Students learn to express opinions using verbs such as *denken*, *glauben* and *meinen* and develop their ability to justify viewpoints. They compare people, places and experiences using comparative adjectives and *als*. Possessive adjectives are introduced and applied accurately. Students practise adapting model sentences to create new meanings and produce more detailed spoken and written responses.

#### **Spring and Summer Terms – Future Plans and Modal Verbs**

Students develop confidence talking about future intentions using the present and future tense and learn to use modal verbs such as *können*, *müssen*, *dürfen* and *wollen*. They apply correct verb placement in main and subordinate clauses, including *weil* and *denn*. Language is used to discuss plans, ambitions and activities, with increasing independence and control of sentence structure.

#### **Summer Term – Extended Communication and Cultural Engagement**

The year concludes with consolidation of key phonics, grammar and vocabulary across all time frames. Students work with extended reading and listening texts, including film and authentic non-fiction materials, to develop comprehension for gist and detail. Speaking and writing tasks focus on fluency, accuracy and confidence, enabling students to manipulate language more independently.

### Assessment and Progression

Assessment in Year 8 focuses on phonics accuracy, grammatical control across multiple time frames, vocabulary recall and the ability to adapt language independently. By the end of the year, students can understand and produce extended spoken and written German, use present, perfect and future time references accurately, and apply correct word order with confidence, providing a strong foundation for Year 9 German.