



Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

"Life in all its fullness" John 10:10



Monday 12th June 2023

Dear Year 8 Parents and Carers,

Re: Year 8 Modern Foreign Languages Choice

I am writing to inform you of a decision that Year 8 students will shortly be asked to make about their language studies from September 2023.

Modern foreign languages form an important part of our curriculum at Wadham School. As international work and travel become increasingly common, the ability to communicate in a foreign language is a critical and necessary skill. Year 8 students have therefore been learning both French and German during this academic year, to enable them to experience two different European languages and to learn about the cultures of the countries where these languages are spoken.

Now that students have had the opportunity to experience learning both languages at a basic level, we will soon be asking students to choose which language they would prefer to continue learning in Year 9. This will allow them to spend more curriculum time developing their skills in this language, so that they can become effective, global communicators. Additionally, we believe that focussing on one language will better prepare our students for further study of this language at GCSE level, should they opt to continue learning a language in Years 10 and 11.

Students will be asked to choose one of the following options by their language's teacher in one of their language lessons next week:

Option 1: I would prefer to study **French** in Year 9.

Option 2: I would prefer to study **German** in Year 9.

Option 3: I do not mind whether I study French or German in Year 9.

For those students who may be interested in opting for both French and German at GCSE, or for those students who simply want to keep learning both languages, there will be variety of regular extracurricular opportunities starting in September 2023 for them to take part in.

When students are making their decision, we would strongly encourage them to consider their enjoyment of the language, alongside class work and previous assessment results, in order to maximize their engagement with their learning over the next two years.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or your young person's languages teacher if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Annabel Whitcombe
Lead Teacher of MFL



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