



Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

"Life in all its fullness" John 10:10



Friday 8th May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Year 7 Modern Foreign Languages Choice

I am writing to inform you of a decision that Year 7 students will shortly be asked to make about their language studies from September 2026.

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 7 students have therefore been learning both French and German during this academic year, to enable them to experience two different European languages and cultures.

Now that students have had the opportunity to experience learning both languages at a basic level, we will soon be asking for their input into their languages curriculum in Year 8 and Year 9. For most students, we would recommend they choose to study either French **or** German. This will allow them to spend more curriculum time developing their skills in this language, so that they can become effective, global communicators and be well-prepared for GCSE if they wish to continue the language in KS4. Students would spend 4 hours per 2-week cycle studying this language only. However, there will also be an option for students to continue learning both languages. This is a good option for keen linguists who are highly motivated and enjoy learning both languages equally. Students choosing this option would spend 2 hours per 2-week cycle on each language and may already be considering studying at least one of these languages for GCSE.

Therefore, students will be asked to choose one of the following options by one of their language's teachers in the week commencing 18th May 2026:

Option 1: I would prefer to study **French** in Year 8 and Year 9.

Option 2: I would prefer to study **German** in Year 8 and Year 9.

Option 3: I would like to study both French **and** German in Year 8 and Year 9.

Option 4: I do not mind whether I study French or German in Year 8 and Year 9.

I am sure you will want to discuss this with your young person so that you are aware, and in support of, the choice they will be making. When students are making their decision, we would strongly encourage them to consider their enjoyment of the language, alongside class work and assessment results, in order to maximize their engagement with their learning over the next two years.

Where possible, we try to ensure all students can study the option they have chosen but this cannot always be guaranteed. If there are any issues, we will speak to students affected in person as soon as possible to find a suitable solution.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Annabel Whitcombe (Head of Modern Foreign Languages)



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