The Wilnecote School: Our Curriculum



Key Stage 4

Year group:	Topics covered:
Year 10	What will students learn during each year?
	Students cover three themes during their GCSE course, which have been created by AQA. We have sequenced our topics as below based on the topics that students tend to be more confident in so that the more challenging topics are nearer to students sitting their exams in year 11.
	We continue to revisit high frequency vocabulary and grammatical structures as well as learning new structures that will ensure students are well equipped when completing the writing and speaking exams. We explore numerous exam strategies to suit all learners and students are given numerous opportunities to approach all forms of the GCSE exam every half term.
	All assessments are marked providing constructive feedback, which is then responded to and reviewed to ensure progress. Homework tasks are given weekly to help maintain and demonstrate knowledge.
	Prior learning from KS3 is often used during the GCSE course and then built upon.
	Our objective of the GCSE course is to enable students of all abilities to develop their foreign language skills to their full potential, equipping them with the knowledge to communicate in a variety of contexts with confidence.
	Students will be required to: Isten and respond to different types of spoken language communicate in speech for a variety of purposes read and respond to different types of written language communicate in writing for a variety of purposes use and understand a range of vocabulary and structures understand and apply the grammar of the language, as detailed in the specification.
	To see our GCSE schemes of work, please see the attached document.
Assessment:	How Will I be assessed at Key Stage 4?
	Paper 1: Listening
	What's assessed: Understanding and responding to different types of spoken language
	How it's assessed
	Written exam: 35 minutes (Foundation Tier), 45 minutes (Higher Tier)
	• 40 marks (Foundation Tier), 50 marks (Higher Tier)
	• 25% of GCSE (Each exam includes 5 minutes' reading time of the question paper before the listening stimulus is played.)
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Questions

Foundation Tier and Higher Tier

- Section A questions in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally
- Section B questions in German, to be answered in German or non-verbally

Paper 2: Speaking

What's assessed:

Communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purposes

How it's assessed

- Non-exam assessment
- 7-9 minutes (Foundation Tier) + preparation time
- 10-12 minutes (Higher Tier) + preparation time
- 60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier)
- 25% of GCSE

Questions

The format is the same at Foundation Tier and Higher Tier, but with different stimulus questions for the Photo card and different stimulus materials for the Role-play. The timings are different too:

- Role-play 15 marks (2 minutes at Foundation Tier; 2 minutes at Higher Tier)
- Photo card 15 marks (2 minutes at Foundation Tier; 3 minutes at Higher Tier)
- General conversation 30 marks (3-5 minutes at Foundation Tier; 5-7 minutes at Higher Tier)

Paper 3: Reading

What's assessed:

Understanding and responding to different types of written language

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 45 minutes (Foundation Tier), 1 hour (Higher Tier)
- 60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier)
- 25% of GCSE

Questions

Foundation Tier and Higher Tier

- Section A questions in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally
- Section B questions in German, to be answered in German or non-verbally
- Section C translation from German into English (a minimum of 35 words at Foundation Tier and 50 words at Higher Tier)

Paper 4: Writing

What's assessed:

Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour (Foundation Tier), 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher Tier)
- 50 marks at Foundation Tier and 60 marks at Higher Tier
- 25% of GCSE

Questions

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Foundation Tier

- Question 1 message (student produces four sentences in response to a photo) 8 marks
- Question 2 short passage (student writes a piece of continuous text in response to four brief bullet points, approximately 40 words in total) 16 marks
- Question 3 translation from English into German (minimum 35 words) 10 marks
- Question 4 structured writing task (student responds to four compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total) there is a choice from two questions 16 marks
 Higher Tier
- Question 1 structured writing task (student responds to four compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total) there is a choice from two questions 16 marks
- Question 2 open-ended writing task (student responds to two compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 150 words in total) there is a choice from two questions 32 marks
- Question 3 translation from English into German (minimum 50 words) 12 marks