

March 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 7 Languages Study

Our new students in Year 7 will study either French or German as their only language and continue to study this language throughout Key Stage Three, with a view to the vast majority of students continuing their learning in languages to GCSE. For students who display a talent and love of learning in Modern Foreign Languages, we will offer the opportunity to study a second language through extra-curricular learning at KS3. This will then enable such students to take two Modern Foreign Languages at GCSE level.

We are aware that some parents may feel strongly about which language their child studies. If so, we would ask you to email Mrs Stickels, Year 7 Secretary at year7admin@helsbyhigh.org.uk to express your preference at your earliest convenience but no later than **Monday 15 April 2019**. I must stress that we cannot guarantee that we will be able to place all students in their stated preferred language due to timetable and staffing constraints. Should we not receive a reply from you by **Monday 15 April 2019**, we will assume that you are happy for your child to study either language.

You may find the information on the reverse of this letter useful but please do not hesitate to get in touch with me if you have any further questions.

Yours faithfully



S Warburton (Mrs)
Deputy Headteacher

Although studying any language should give you the tools to pick up another, there are of course reasons for choosing one language over another.

Reasons to study French

- France is our closest neighbour and we have a long history of learning and teaching French in this country.
- France is culturally rich and diverse.
- French is a romance language based on Latin and so can help you to learn other similar languages.
- French is an important language in European politics and culture. It is spoken widely across Europe.
- Tourism from Britain to France is common.

Reasons to study German

- Germany and other German speaking countries are close by and cheap to get to. Tourism to Germany is on the rise.
- Germany has a rich and interesting culture.
- German is a Germanic language just like English and therefore includes a number of similar words. It is a phonetic language and so is relatively easy to pronounce.
- German is a logical language and suits students with a scientific mind-set.
- The German economy is very strong and a number of leading businesses across a number of sectors are based in, or have strong links with Germany.
- German is an important language in European politics and culture. It is spoken widely across Europe.