

17 June 2022



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Dear Parent/Carer

As you will be aware, your child has studied both French and German in Year 7 and Year 8. This has given them the opportunity to sample two different European languages. They have been given the chance to compare the two languages, identify similarities and differences and to develop a range of language learning skills.

From September, in Year 9, it is planned that pupils will move on to study just one language from either French or German in lessons to cover the language in greater depth in preparation for GCSE at the end of KS4. By focussing on just one language in lessons, pupils will be able to develop a wider understanding and increased confidence in using their chosen language.

**But what if my child wants to study two or three languages at GCSE?**

Pupils who have a strong desire to continue with both French and German, or begin learning Spanish, will be able to do so by choosing a twilight course in French, German or Spanish. A twilight course is taught in two hours after school every week. Pupils wishing to study Spanish in KS4 will be expected to attend this twilight in Year 9 in preparation for the GCSE course.

**Will the twilight courses continue throughout Year 10 and 11 as well?**

Twilight courses will only run in Year 9. Pupils wishing to take two languages at GCSE in Year 10 and Year 11 would study both languages in curriculum time during the school day as part of their option choices. Pupils will only be able to choose languages for GCSE in Year 10 and Year 11 that they have studied in Year 9 either during the school day or through their twilight choice.

**What does my child need to do next?**

Your child will need to complete a short questionnaire. The questionnaire will give your child the option to state their preferences and the reasons for their choice. We will do our best to accommodate your child's/family's choice of language, although this cannot be guaranteed. Please discuss with your child their choice of language. If your child has no strong preference for which language to study in Year 9, it is still important to fill in the questionnaire and indicate this so that the language teachers can make the most appropriate choice for your child. The link to this questionnaire can be found at the bottom of this letter.

A small number of students may be able to study Italian in lessons. If your child has a specific reason to study Italian, this will be considered on a case by case basis. If you would like to discuss this further or have any questions, please contact me here at school by email ([kcassar@pilton.college](mailto:kcassar@pilton.college)) or in writing.

Yours faithfully,

Karen Cassar  
Head of MFL

<https://forms.office.com/r/rsSYGPQ7Dt>