

Schools play a vital role in preparing students to become global citizens by providing access to language programs and cultural learning.

There is a growing importance for multilingualism in an increasingly globalised world. Learning a new language enables students to develop their communication skills, intercultural capabilities and provides an opportunity for reflection on their own language use.

Germany's strong economy, strategic location in Europe and the strong German industry presence in the Asia Pacific region make German a highly relevant language for Australian schools.

Knowledge of the German language opens doors for students providing opportunities for student exchange, studies abroad, career development and cultural enhancement.



LEFT W.A. High School exchange with St Ursula's School in Hannover

DID YOU KNOW?

German is the most widely spoken language in Europe

German is the official language to over 100 million people in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Liechtenstein and areas bordering these countries.

German industry and business have a very strong presence in our Asia Pacific region

The ability to speak German provides a competitive advantage both for career development and business partnerships.

TESTIMONIALS



It is rewarding to see the students actively engaged in learning German as they develop skills, knowledge and understandings in other learning areas.

Helen Kuehs
German teacher, Baldivis Primary School, Western Australia



I also like the simplicity of German as I believe the sound patterns will be easier than other languages for my students to master.

Ms Jayne Ebsworthy
Principal, Baldivis Gardens Primary School, Western Australia



One of the things I love about teaching German is the different countries in which German is spoken and how similar yet vastly different their languages and cultures are.

Patrick Guggisberg
German Teacher Methodist Ladies' College

FURTHER INFORMATION

For support in developing a German Language Program contact:

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LEARNING AREA PARTNERSHIPS
Statewide Services
9402 6376

MS KATE WILLIAMS
Lead Language School, German
Rossmoyne Senior High School
katherine.williams2@education.wa.edu.au

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
PROF ALEXANDRA LUDEWIG
alexandra.ludewig@uwa.edu.au

TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF GERMAN IN WA
MS HELEN KUEHS
helen.kuehs@education.wa.edu.au

GOETHE SOCIETY WA
MS IRIS LUDEWIG-ROHWER
goethesocietywa@gmail.com

GOETHE-INSTITUT AUSTRALIA
MS EVA BAKER
info@melbourne.goethe.org

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WESTERN AUSTRALIA
MS MARIEL HOWARD
Languages Consultant K-12
mariel.howard@cewa.edu.au

ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
MS KATE REITZENSTEIN
Curriculum Consultant: Languages
kreitzenstein@ais.wa.edu.au

BENEFITS OF GERMAN AT A GLANCE



Rossmoyne Senior High School

GERMAN FOR WEST AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS

AN INFORMATION BOOKLET FOR SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

- High Retention Rates**
Students gain proficiency quickly
- Strengthens Literacy Skills**
- Strong link with STEM subjects**

- Student opportunities for exchange and study abroad**
- German Language Curriculum developed for W.A Schools**
- Resources and Support**

PRESENTED BY



German Language Round Table
Western Australia



LEARNING GERMAN OPENS THE DOOR TO A BIGGER WORLD



English speakers have an advantage when learning German

There are many similarities in the grammar and vocabulary of English and German as modern English and modern German both evolved from the Germanic language.

This means that English speakers have an advantage in learning German. Comparatively it has been demonstrated that students can make greater progress in a shorter time frame. Additionally, German enjoys one of the highest retention rates among the foreign languages.



Language learning complements and strengthens literacy skills

Learning another language uniquely develops the student's cognitive skills resulting in a strong link between improved literacy and second language learning. Through the learning of a second language focus is drawn towards the mechanics of language: grammar, sentence structure and vocabulary.

This enhances the student's awareness of language and how it can be structured and formed. As a result there is evidence that learning a second language can improve a student's literacy in their first language.



Strong link the German language shares with Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)

Germany is a world leader in innovation with leading universities, research institutes and strong engineering, IT and manufacturing industries. Germany is Europe's largest economy and one of the world's most technologically powerful economies.

The German language is one of the most commonly used scientific languages with Germany being a significant contributor to research and development. Students who learn the German language gain access to academic knowledge, culture, discourse and ideas in German speaking countries and central Europe.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CONTENT AND LANGUAGE INTEGRATED LEARNING OR CLIL IN GERMAN

Germany's strong record of research, development and innovation in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) provides a great opportunity for German language and STEM subject content to be learnt together (Content and Language Integrated Learning or CLIL). This educational approach increases the student's motivation and confidence in both the language and subject.

CLIL has the advantage of addressing the 'crowded curriculum' issue as it enables one or more curriculum areas to be taught in and through an additional language, and thereby extends the time on task for language learning. For more information on CLIL in German see the attached flyer "CLIL STEM In German" by the Goethe Institute Australia.

GERMAN IN WEST AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS

CASE STUDIES



Study & Academic Exchange

Knowledge of German provides the opportunity for students to access free University education in Germany.

Partnership programs between Australian Universities and counterparts in Germany are well established.

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) provides grants and scholarships for study and research in Germany to students, researchers and academics affiliated with Australian universities and institutions. For further information about DADD see their website: <https://www.daad.de/en>

Opportunities for Scholarships to study in Germany on a student exchange

The Society for Australian-German Student Exchange WA (SAGSE WA) awards scholarships to Western Australian students each year to travel to Germany for 10 weeks during their summer vacation. The exchange program aims to give students an insight into a foreign culture; building intercultural friendships and understanding.

Further information can be found on the SAGSE website: <http://www.sagse.org.au>



The experience that I had through the SAGSE WA Scholarship was so unique; I have grown so much as a person and my perspective of the world has been broadened even further. I now have Germany in mind as a place to study, and have established life-long connections and friendships with amazing people.

Stephanie Winter
W.A. Student SAGSE WA Scholarship Winner

ROSSMOYNE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL W.A

Rossmoyne Senior High School is one of only two senior high schools in Western Australia offering the Department of Education's selective-entry Gifted and Talented Education (Languages) program and the only one offering an accelerated program in German. Rossmoyne also offers Chinese, French and Japanese in accelerated (Gifted and Talented) and mainstream programs.

German was one of the first languages taught at the school and already had a strong following in the 1980s. Currently there are approximately 170 students studying German from Years 7 to 12. The program is supported by its current two feeder primary schools, its experienced and passionate teachers and student exchanges to Germany.

The Lead Language School initiative heralds an exciting new chapter in German language learning, not only for Rossmoyne Senior High School students but also for students in partner metropolitan and regional schools in the future.

For further information please contact **Kate Williams** via email katherine.williams2@education.wa.edu.au

BALDIVIS PRIMARY SCHOOL W.A

Baldivis Primary School has a strong and innovative German language program. All students at the school from year 1 to year 6 learn German as a second language with German language actively integrated into other learning areas.

Using the Content and Language Integrated learning approach German is taught through the School Kitchen Garden. Students learn about growing food, cooking, insects and other related topics, uniquely integrating aspects of science, mathematics and information technology into the German language lessons.

RIGHT Baldivis Primary School



German Language Curriculum developed for Western Australian Schools

The School Curriculum and Standards Authority has developed a P-10 German Language syllabus as part of the Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline as well as German: Second Language and German: Background Languages courses for Year 11 and 12.

These documents are accessible via the School Curriculum and Standards Authority website. www.scsa.wa.edu.au



Resources and Support

The German language is taught on a highly professional level and supported by a network of language advisors, best practice teacher training (both in Australia and Germany), support materials and resources, and state and national conferences.

The Department of Education has introduced Lead Languages Schools to assist with the provision of on-line language lessons.