
TEACHER OF LANGUAGES – German

Contract Type:	Maternity Cover (c.1 year); Full-Time or Part-Time considered
Required for:	September 2025
Closing Date for applications:	Monday 31st March, 9am
Interview date:	Thursday 3rd April

This is an outstanding opportunity to join one of Oxfordshire's most successful schools. Wallingford School is an oversubscribed, 11-18 school with enthusiastic students, supportive staff and excellent facilities. We have an excellent reputation, enjoying strong support from parents and students, and a good and growing working relationship with the local community.

We are among the most successful schools in the country for progress in English and Maths. In 2024, 71% of our students achieved at least a Grade 4 in English and Maths at GCSE; 54% achieved at least a Grade 5 in English and Maths, and 30% of all grades achieved were at Grade 7 or above. Vocational grades were similarly impressive: 78% of entries gained at least a Level 2 Pass and 22% at a Distinction or Distinction*.

These results are great, but our school is about much more than just exams. We are an inclusive school which – as the only secondary school in the town – is determined to serve its local community well. Comprehensive school values are important to us. Students of all abilities thrive at Wallingford and we pride ourselves on giving students a chance who may not have had one at other schools.

This is a very happy and supportive environment, with great relationships throughout the school. We place an especially high value on the development of colleagues and have an extensive professional development programme. Our annual two-day Teaching and Learning Conference is the highlight of this programme. There are many opportunities for teachers to work collaboratively across the school. Within departments, and across the school, there are often opportunities to take on roles of responsibility. Student attitudes and behaviour are excellent and are frequently commented upon by visitors as being so. It is an excellent place to work and we are committed to staff wellbeing and a healthy work-life balance for all our colleagues. The successful applicant should expect to be very well supported in their professional development.

THE LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

The Languages department has a proven track record of success. In 2024, 87% of students achieved Grade 4+ in GCSE French, 72% achieved Grade 5+, and 41% of students achieved Grade 7+. In German, 87% achieved Grade 4+, 77% achieved Grade 5+, and 49% achieved Grade 7+. At KS5 in 2024, of the 3 students studying French one achieved an A* and the other an A. 3 of the 5 students studying German achieved an A grade.

Sending every young person into the world able and qualified

We are a strong, supportive department of eight teachers and two foreign language assistants who achieve excellent results in all Key Stages. Languages are thriving at Wallingford and form a key part of the school curriculum.

In Key Stage 3 students are taught in mixed ability form groups and all students study either French or German for 3 lessons per week in Year 7. In Years 8 and 9 students study 2 lessons of each language per week. Languages are optional at Key Stage 4 with students choosing to continue with French or German (or both) following the Edexcel GCSE specification. We are really proud of the number of our students who choose a language at GCSE and we currently have 5 GCSE classes in both years 10 and 11. Students achieve very highly at GCSE in both languages with an increasing number of students gaining grades at 7+ and progressing to study A Level French and/or German following the Edexcel A Level specification. A significant number of our A Level students choose to study MFL at University.

You would be joining a team of colleagues who are experienced, enthusiastic and dedicated. We work together regularly, both formally and informally, to ensure high quality teaching and learning within our department. Our work is often collaborative and we encourage the sharing of good practice and responsibilities within the team. There are many opportunities to take on leadership roles within the Languages department.

Our shared vision is to provide high quality language learning to pupils of all abilities and to offer cultural as well as linguistic opportunities whenever possible. At Key Stages 4 and 5 we run two very successful Exchanges to Grenoble and Bad Wurzach and enjoy excellent relationships with our colleagues at our partner schools abroad. In Key Stage 3 we run day trips to Aachen and Boulogne which are extremely popular with our students. We also regularly take part in Languages outreach work with the University of Oxford, work closely with the Oxford German Network and train PGCE interns each year with Oxford University's Department of Education.

We are fortunate to be housed in a purpose-built suite of 5 classrooms with interactive whiteboards. In addition to our MFL classrooms we have a Languages Team Room, an office and a small resources room.

Visits to our Languages department are very warmly welcome!

Please contact Theresa McGarrick (Curriculum Team Leader for Languages)
mcgarrickt@wallingfordschool.com if you would like to visit us in advance of submitting an application.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential:

The successful candidate will:

- Hold Qualified Teacher Status
- Have an Enhanced DBS Certificate
- Have a genuine and infectious passion for languages
- Have the ability to teach German across the age and ability range. A second language would be advantageous

Sending every young person into the world able and qualified

- Be an enthusiastic team member who is keen to work collaboratively
- Be a reflective practitioner, who has the potential to develop his/her own career further
- Have the ability to communicate effectively with staff, parents, students and external organisations

Desirable:

The successful candidate will:

- Be willing to accompany our trips abroad and get involved in organising extra-curricular activities
- Be able to offer a second language, in addition to German

GENERAL DUTIES

At The Merchant Taylors Oxfordshire Academy Trust we pride ourselves on providing a safe and happy environment where young people can flourish and we want to send every young person into the world able and qualified to play their full part within it. This job description should be read in conjunction with the current School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document and the provisions of that document will apply to the post holder. The Merchant Taylors Oxfordshire Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All successful candidates will be subject to Criminal Records Bureau checks along with other relevant employment checks.

You will be expected to carry out the professional duties of a teacher as outlined in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document currently in operation, or any subsequent legislation. The performance of all the duties and responsibilities shown below will be under the reasonable direction of the Headteacher, or other Senior Manager if appropriate, who will be mindful of his/her duty to ensure that the employee has a reasonable workload and sufficient support to carry out the duties of the post.

The successful candidate will be expected to be a form tutor and on Friday mornings (if timetabled) help with the delivery of the school's PSHE programme. In addition to support from within the Languages team, newly appointed staff are able to benefit from the induction support programme.

You will find many opportunities at Wallingford Schools Academy Trust and we look forward to receiving your application.

TEACHERS PENSION DETAILS

The link for teaching staff to the Teachers' Pension website is:

<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/>

TERMS & CONDITIONS

The Merchant Taylors Oxfordshire Academy Trust employs teaching staff working at Wallingford Schools Academy on the conditions of service contained in the General Terms and Conditions of Employment for Teaching Staff which can be found at <http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/teachers-conditions-employment>

Please see our privacy notice:

Sending every young person into the world able and qualified

<http://www.wallingfordschool.com/index.php/documents/category/24-privacy-notice>

TO APPLY

Please complete the attached application form and email to recruit@wallingfordschool.com

Sending every young person into the world able and qualified

The Merchant Taylors' Oxfordshire Academy Trust Ltd. is an exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee Registered in England & Wales. Company No. 7727786
Registered Office: Wallingford School, St George's Road, Wallingford, Oxon, OX10 8HH, UK VAT Registration 130 8553 29