

# The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

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Headteacher:  
Rob James

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Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to welcome all our students back to The Ramsey Academy and I would like to wish everybody a very successful year.

I am writing to you as I would like to take the opportunity to inform you about learning resources your son or daughter can use when revising at home. These resources can also be used to support the completion of any of the homework tasks set.

Year 9-11 French/German new GCSE specification  
Examination board: AQA

The new GCSE course has now started for Year 9 as well and Year 11 have had a year of following the new specifications in French and German. As you will be aware, there is a new grading system, Grade 9-1, which entails higher demands and language knowledge and skills.

The course we are using is Kerboodle online resource which we have purchased in order to help with any homework tasks or individual revision. All Year 9-11 students in MFL have their own log in details and some homework tasks will be assigned on Kerboodle. Students can revise vocabulary, and carry out listening and reading activities as often as they wish. Our students have been shown how to use Kerboodle and they had the opportunity to get to understand the resource during a lesson, but I also think it is important that you, as parents/carers, know as I am convinced that you would like your child to achieve the desired grade including meeting those higher demands. I am aware that learning a foreign language is, or can be, a challenging task but help is at hand. In addition to the online resource, your child has access to the online Kerboodle textbook (foundation and higher tier) which we have purchased.

If you or your child encounters any problems during the learning experience, please do not hesitate to contact myself or the subject teacher.

The new GCSE specifications state that all students sit their final exams at the end of the course. In addition to listening, reading, writing and speaking, students will need to develop their skills in translation and they will be working with authentic French or German literature texts.

We are very interested in giving your child the best education and I would be very pleased if we could work alongside each other.

Of course, I would like to ask you for your support. We are very keen on providing your child with the best education and learning a foreign language can be a challenging task. The more your child practices, the more confident your child will become in speaking the language fluently and writing coherently and with greater accuracy.

Year 7-8 French/German course

I would like to inform you that we are working with new resources in Year 7 and 8 for both languages as we need to develop certain skills over time in order to support your child in succeeding learning both languages. We use Allez for French and Zoom for German. The MFL department is very excited about these new resources as these are online and your child has been issued with their own login details and every child has access to the textbook online and in addition to the textbook there are other resources available for them to use as revision or further

practices. Subject teachers will use the resource banks for homework and revision. Allez and Zoom are part of the Kerboodle resource mentioned above. All classes have been shown how to use the digital textbook and additional resources. As stated above, your child will be able to conduct listening activities and reading activities online and as often as they wish.

May I stress the importance of learning vocabulary as this is vital in Modern Foreign Languages and regular assessments will take place during lessons.

All students have been issued with their own vocabulary books which they keep in their exercise books.

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. I am very happy to assist you.

I wish every student success for this year and the future.

Thank you very much for your interest and supporting your son/daughter in learning a foreign language successfully.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Starke', written in a cursive style.

C Starke (Mrs)  
Curriculum Leader for MFL