

The John Warner School • Stanstead Road • Hoddesdon • Hertfordshire • EN11 0QF
Telephone: 01992 462889 • Facsimile: 01992 470679 • E-mail: admin@johnwarner.herts.sch.uk
Website: www.johnwarner.herts.sch.uk • Headteacher: David J. Kennedy

HJH/frc
24 June 2016

Dear Parent/Carer(s)

Languages at The John Warner School – New Intake for September 2017

As you are aware from the school's prospectus, students at The John Warner School study two languages in Years 7 and 8. French is common to all students but a second language needs to be chosen from either German or Italian.

In order for us to plan our curriculum I would ask you to complete a brief online survey indicating which language your child would prefer to study when they join us in September. Please be aware that we cannot give an absolute guarantee that your child would be able to study their preferred language but we make every effort to facilitate your preferences. This survey is important for us to plan our staffing and therefore I must inform you that if you do not wish to make a choice then your child will be assigned a second language in such a way as to meet the staffing constraints of the school.

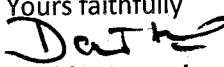
When making your choice you should bear in mind the following. Both German and Italian are major European languages and allow a student to access cultures other than their own. Language learning is powerful beyond the learning of language itself. It promotes analytical thinking, develops children's capacity for sequencing ideas and structuring information and, at the same time engenders an appreciation of the diversity of culture within the modern world. There are tangible benefits within mathematics and music and the rigour required to be proficient in speaking, listening to or writing in a foreign tongue, immeasurably enhances children's ability to engage with others on an academic and social basis, both in the United Kingdom and across the world. It also improves academic outcomes across the curriculum with recent changes to our own examination systems placing an ever greater emphasis on retention of key vocabulary and effective written communication.

Whichever language students choose is a matter of personal preference; both have challenges and both will enrich their life. Ms Hill, Head of Modern Languages, is available to discuss students' preferences if required, in order to ensure they are making the right choice. If your child speaks Italian or German as their first language, would you please indicate this on the form, as this gives your child a considerable advantage in terms of their final results at GCSE.

To indicate your child's preferences, please go to the admission pages of our school's website, alternatively type this URL into your browser to access the form. The deadline for completing the survey is Friday 14th July 2017.

<https://form.jotformeu.com/jwsforms/languagepref>

Thank you for your help and support with this matter.

Yours faithfully

David J Kennedy
Headteacher

Committed to Excellence