

November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

French and German PPE Speaking Exams 20 November 2023 – 1 December 2023

I am writing to inform you that the GCSE Modern Foreign Language pre-public speaking exams will take place in the weeks commencing 20 and 27 November. The three remaining skills: reading, listening and writing papers will take place in the two weeks of the main Year 11 pre-public examinations from the 6 to 17 November 2023.

The speaking exams will be worth **25%** of the final grade and have parity with the other skills. Language teachers will be taken off their timetabled lessons to provide your son/daughter with the opportunity to practise their speaking skills before the real event in April 2024. Times will be assigned to students according to teacher availability. These will be posted on ClassCharts and copies will be on display in the Languages classrooms. Students will need to leave their timetabled lesson for approximately 20 minutes. It is important that students arrive on time to their exam so that we can stick to the arranged schedule. We will do our best to re-arrange speaking exams which are missed due to illness or pre-arranged appointments.

There are three elements to the speaking exam:

- Role Play Card
- Photo Description
- General Conversation

The foundation tier exams lasts between **seven and ten minutes** and the higher tier between **ten and twelve minutes**. There is **12 minutes preparation time** for each tier, which is conducted in exam conditions and monitored by an invigilator.

All students have been issued with revision guidance on ClassCharts with further resources signposted. All students have been working on completing their Speaking Booklet since September, which contains suggested questions for each theme and is supported by sentence builders, key vocabulary and hints available on ClassCharts.

All students find speaking exams challenging and all students get nervous, **BUT usually do well if they have put in the required effort.**

To support your son/daughter at home, practice the questions with them so that they become used to speaking aloud, do not worry if you cannot speak the language yourself!. We would greatly appreciate your support in helping us in our efforts to ensure that your child reaches their potential.

If you have any further questions about the speaking exam or the MFL GCSE generally, please do not hesitate to contact your child's subject teacher by emailing office@kovessex.co.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Vicki Perch
Subject Leader for Modern Foreign Languages



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