

## Requirements for German pupils taking I/GCSEs (over one or two years)

In order that I/GCSEs taken at a British school are later officially recognised, German candidates need to pass at least five I/GCSEs (more are always welcome) in the following subjects:

1. Mathematics
2. & 3. two languages (usually German and English, but could also be German plus Latin or French or Spanish or another language).  
If you offer IGCSEs then both German and English have to be taken as **First Language**.
4. **A Science:**
  - a. (Preferred option): At least one **separate science** (either GCSE Biology, or GCSE Chemistry or GCSE Physics) if a student intends to leave school after completing GCSEs OR if they take their GCSEs over two years with you with the intention of returning to Germany for Abitur.
  - b. **Separate Science OR Dual Award/Double Science:** for 1 year GCSE students and those staying in UK for the Sixth Form.
5. One humanity from either Geography, History or **Economics**. Other humanities such as Religious Studies, Business Studies or GCSE Humanities are not recognised, i.e. they may only be taken in addition to one of the above subjects.

☛ **Short courses are not accepted.**

With passes (grade C / 4 or above) in at least these five subjects, German students will be granted the equivalent of the “Mittlere Reife”, our secondary school leavers’ certificate. Students who are in Britain for Y11 only don’t have to send in their GCSE certificates for the recognition however. They will receive their “Mittlere Reife” after completing the first year of the Abitur back in Germany.

Even for those students who choose to leave the German school system for good and stay at your school for the Sixth Form we recommend that they attain these five I/GCSE passes in case their plans change.

Generally, we don’t recommend that students take any of their I/GCSE subjects at **Foundation Tier** in the I/GCSEs as it generally rules out them taking that subject at A Level or IB Higher Level. This would limit their chances of getting into German university too early on.