Year: 8
Subject: German
Topic/Unit: Module 4: Schule ist klasse! (School is great!)
When: Autumn Term 1

Huntington School
Learn and succeed

Overview: Why this? Why now? This unit focuses on the students' immediate environment as they begin a new academic year. By learning to describe their school day, subjects, and teachers, students acquire high-frequency vocabulary essential for daily communication. This topic allows students to express personal preferences and debate fairness regarding school rules, which supports their social and linguistic development.

Building on...building to: This unit builds on Year 7 foundations, such as basic opinions and personal information. It transitions students from simple sentences to complex structures involving subordinate clauses (*weil*) and modal verbs (*dürfen*). Ultimately, it leads to the "Meine Traumschule" (My Dream School) project, where students use creative language and various tenses to describe an ideal educational setting.

Sequence summary:

- **School Subjects and Timetables:** Revising subjects and learning to tell the time using both digital 24-hour and conversational formats.
- **Opinions and Descriptions:** Expressing views on subjects and describing teachers using adjectives, intensifiers (e.g., *sehr, ziemlich*), and possessive pronouns.
- **Comparisons:** Using comparative adjectives (e.g., *besser als, interessanter als*) to rank subjects and teachers.
- **School Rules and Facilities:** Identifying classroom items and locations using prepositions and the dative case. Discussing rules using the modal verb *dürfen* (to be allowed to).
- **Reading and Writing Skills:** Developing strategies to understand longer texts and producing detailed paragraphs about a typical school day.

Key Vocabulary:

- *Subjects, time, describing teachers, rules using modal verbs, prepositions with classroom items*

Assessments:

- **Formative:** Regular vocabulary tests, mini-whiteboard drills, and peer-assessment of speaking tasks.
- **Summative:** Formal end-of-module Listening, Reading and Writing assessments

Able and interested: "Challenge" tasks are integrated into lessons, such as using *weil* to provide justified reasons, explaining grammatical rules, and translating complex comparisons. Students may also create "Super-Trumpf" (Top Trumps) cards for teachers and subjects to extend their descriptive language.

Inclusion, Personal Development and Wider Skills: Lessons use visual aids and scaffolding (e.g., pictures and clues) to help all learners approach longer texts. Personal development is encouraged by discussing school rules and the concept of fairness.

Homework and Independent Learning: Homework includes weekly vocabulary learning using "foldy sheets" and exercises on the Pearson ActiveHub platform. Students are also expected to use DIRT (Dedicated Improvement and Reflection Time) to act on teacher feedback and refine their written work.