



Introduction to GCHQ

What is GCHQ?

GCHQ is a security and intelligence agency, based in Cheltenham. It works in close partnership with the British Security Service (MI5) and the Secret Intelligence Service (MI6).

GCHQ both protects the UK's electronic communications and helps to protect the UK from external threats by gathering and analysing digital and electronic signals from around the world. Much of this information is in foreign languages so a high level of language skills is required.

[Watch the 'Introduction to GCHQ' at
http://gchq-careers.co.uk/](http://gchq-careers.co.uk/)





The main GCHQ building in Cheltenham is often referred to as
'The Doughnut'



What does GCHQ do?

GCHQ's work tackles issues such as serious crime, including computer crime, drugs trafficking, money laundering, terrorism, weapons and arms smuggling, and support to the military.

Work as a linguist at GCHQ involves being a 'front-line' analyst, putting the pieces together and using language and cultural insight to shed light on the background to the headline stories.

It provides an outlet for passionate linguists who want to contribute to keeping our country safe.

[Watch 'The Evolving Mission of GCHQ' at
http://gchq-careers.co.uk/about-gchq](http://gchq-careers.co.uk/about-gchq)



GCHQ Linguists

GCHQ recognises language as a key skill and it is a major employer of linguists in the UK.

GCHQ is not just looking for people with language skills, but subject and cultural experts. To GCHQ, linguists do not ‘just’ know a foreign language – they are language analysts.

[Watch ‘GCHQ Jobs’ at](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eddlvzDp2XQ)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eddlvzDp2XQ>

[Watch ‘Who we hire – Language Analyst’ at](http://gchq-careers.co.uk/who-we-hire.html)

<http://gchq-careers.co.uk/who-we-hire.html>

[Watch ‘Life in the Languages Department’ at](http://gchq-careers.co.uk/departments/language-analysts.html)

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**find out more at
gchq-careers.co.uk**