



Overview:

As a highly regarded facilitating subject, French is undoubtedly a challenging but thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding A Level subject. The course is a natural evolution from your GCSE as you will continue to work on the same four key skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) as well as translation into and out of French. You will study many interesting aspects of French-speaking society and the French-speaking world, including technological and social change, diversity and the benefits and challenges it brings, highlights of artistic culture, and political life. There are also opportunities to explore theatre and film in the French-speaking world. The full A Level course allows also for independent research in an area of your choice.

A Level Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing 40% of A Level Course, 2 hours 30 minutes. Assessment of aspects of French speaking society's current trends and issues, Francophone artistic and political culture, and grammar.

A Level Paper 2: Writing 30% of A Level Course, 2 hours. Two c. 300 word essays on each of our studied film (*Au revoir les enfants*) and text (*No et moi*).

A Level Paper 3: Speaking 30%, 21-23 minutes. Presentation and discussion of your individual research project. Discussion of a card on one of the themes from aspects of a French speaking society.

Expectations:

Prior to the beginning of the course, you will be expected to complete a transition grammar pack, covering key features from the GCSE specification. You will have a passion for all things French and a commitment to developing all your language skills, both in the classroom and beyond. Throughout the course, you are encouraged to keep up to date with French culture, for example by listening to/reading the news from French speaking countries, and to make the most of the many excellent opportunities the internet offers for research, insights and immersion into French language and culture. You will be a self-motivated and independent learner, able and willing to take responsibility for and track your own progress.

Extra-Curricular Activities / Independent Learning Opportunities:

Students will be able to act as mentors for younger students of French. Unfortunately, due to the smaller class sizes of Sixth Form Languages, it is not cost efficient to offer Sixth Form trips to the target language countries. However, there are many travel companies offering opportunities such as work experience and home stay visits, which you could take part in independently during school holidays; Modern Foreign Languages staff would be happy to advise. We may also have theatre/film trips to view francophone productions.

Independent Learning Opportunities:

There is a huge variety of resources available for learning and enjoying French outside the classroom, for example the online Dynamic learning platform, vocabulary flashcards on Quizlet, lesson and revision resources in the shared area, and your own grammar booklet, linked to the course. The department has a small lending library of French films and books, and newspapers and radio stations are easily available online.

Career Pathways:

An A Level Language is a prestigious and highly regarded facilitating subject that develops highly valued employability skills; a university graduate of languages is the most employable, after those graduating in Medicine or Law.

Studying a language at A Level opens many doors and the list of professions and industries where a language is useful is extensive, but includes: Interpreter, Translator, Law, Journalism, Tourism, Engineering, Central Government (the Foreign office, Ministry of Defence, MI5 and MI6), Marketing, Retail, Event Management, the Voluntary and Charitable Sector, sporting organisations, education and many more!

Good combinations of other subjects to study with French are:

Other Languages, English, History, Business Studies, Mathematics, Science.

Student Testimonials:

"I enjoy my French classes and feel that my teachers are very supportive and want me to achieve my very best".