



Why Study French?

France may only be a 1 hour flight away, but with French being spoken in 35 different countries on several continents across the world, employment opportunities and the possibilities for travel are endless and as far afield as the Caribbean and the Indian Ocean and as close to home as Paris or Bordeaux. Students study using a careful balance of book-based activities combined with online tasks. They have access to up to date web-based magazines and newspapers as well as inspiring and authentic websites which allow them to develop both their linguistic and ICT skills throughout the course.



Course Content and Assessment

Speaking and listening skills are partly developed through discussion work, to which students are expected to contribute, and through regular conversation classes with a native French Language Assistant. By studying more advanced aspects of French grammar, students are equipped with the necessary skills to understand more complex texts, and to write with greater fluency and accuracy.

The A Level course comprises three modules:

- **Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends**
 - The changing nature of family
 - The 'cyber-society'
 - The place of voluntary work

- **Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues**

- Positive features of a diverse society
- Life for the marginalised
- How criminals are treated

- **Political and artistic culture**

- A culture proud of its heritage
- Contemporary francophone music
- Cinema: the 7th art form
- Teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment
- Demonstrations, strikes – who holds the power?
- Politics and immigration

These are examined at the end of Year 13 by three units of assessment.

- Paper 1 = Listening / Reading / Writing
- Paper 2 = Writing
- Paper 3 = Speaking

Progression Routes

This course will provide a sound basis for those who want to go on to study French to degree level. However, A Level languages are highly regarded and, consequently, many employers actively look for candidates with an A Level language qualification. With opportunities for linguists within the business, finance, sales, manufacturing and hospitality industries, learning a language does not just lead to translating, the travel industry and teaching. Many Higher Education courses in subjects such as Marketing, Business, Science and Engineering now include an element of language study and/or period of work experience abroad.

Entry Requirements

In order to cope with the demands of the course, students should have gained at least grade 6 in French at GCSE, and should have taken the Higher Tier Papers.