

French

A Level – AQA

Course Leader: Mrs S Collins

What's it all about?

A level modern languages are highly valued qualifications in today's world. The A level course in French gives you the opportunity to study French society and culture at first hand, including working with native French speakers. We also look at life and traditions in other French speaking countries around the world.

Increasingly, more and more students go on to use languages in their career – you don't just have to become a language teacher or a translator! Universities offer a great variety of courses, and languages are often combined with other subjects such as law or business studies. In addition, having a language at A Level will make your university application more attractive in today's highly competitive market, even if you choose not to continue with languages at degree level.

What are the entry requirements?

9-6 in GCSE French on higher paper.

Anyone with a love for languages! If you want to develop your language skills beyond just 'phrase book' French, as well as your knowledge of France and French culture, then this is the course for you. You will be encouraged to pursue topics of personal interest and to use French independently to express your own ideas and opinions. The focus is always on communicating and developing your cultural knowledge. An interest in current affairs would also be beneficial.

What will I learn on this course?

The topics include:

Theme 1: Aspects of French-speaking countries: current trends

- Changes in families
- Cyber society
- The role of volunteering work

Theme 2: Artistic culture in the French-speaking world

- French heritage and culture
- Francophone music
- Cinematographic culture

Theme 3: Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues

- Positive aspects of a multicultural society
- Social issues and discrimination
- Crime and punishments

Theme 4: Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world

- Young people and their political involvement
- Protests and strikes
- Politics and immigration.

Literature and Film:

- Film : La Haine (Mathieu Kassovitz)
- Literature : L'Etranger (Albert Camus) or No et Moi (Delphine de Vigan)

There is also a research project on a topic of students' choice which forms part of the final speaking assessment.

How will I be assessed?

In common with all other new A-Level specifications, the new French A-Level will be linear with all exams taken at the end of the course.

Paper	Skills	Time	Weighting
1	Listening, Reading and Writing	2 hours 30	50%
2	Writing (Essays on film & literature)	2 hours	20%
3	Speaking	21-23 minutes	30%

What do your current students say?

Quotes from current A Level students:

- "I think languages are different to any other subject, you can express your feelings and opinions".
- "Because I think it will help me in life, I find it very interesting".
- "You get to discuss and debate so many interesting topics. I feel much more confident when speaking French"
- "Because the class is so small, we get loads of feedback"
- "I love the cultural aspect. I feel that I have developed opinions and actually know things about the world"
- "French has helped with my other A Levels"
- "I chose to do my IRP on the environment and pollution because I want to study chemistry at university"

Is there anything else I need to know?

- You get to control the listening exercises and can pause and repeat as many times as you want!
- Interested in politics, sociology, media, IT, history, geography? We do a bit of all those subjects too.
- There is the possibility to work with younger years to support and further experience and knowledge

Who can I contact for further information?

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