

Subject: French

Level: A Level Exam Board: AQA



Course Outline – AQA Examination Board

We will develop your ability to use French in both speech and writing. You will have weekly French conversation one to one with a teacher or native speaker. Our students are almost always able to speak French well by the end of the course so you will leave us with a really useful skill.

What will I learn on this course?

You will learn to communicate confidently and imaginatively in French through both the spoken and written word and gain insight into the contemporary society and culture of France and French speaking countries. You will be in a good position to undertake further, advanced study of French or make practical use of French in employment.

You will make frequent use of ICT for e-mailing your homework to us and the Internet for authentic French language material.

Who would make a successful student of French?

This course will appeal to students who would enjoy the challenge of speaking to native speakers of French in their own language. You should also enjoy taking part in in depth discussions, expressing your opinions and justifying these in debate. You may be considering further study or working in another European country.

Extra Curricular Activities

In the past these have included work experience in France and a one day conference conducted entirely in French. You would be welcome to help us with lower school language lessons and languages clubs.

Career Opportunities

A modern language is a truly useful ancillary skill for a wide range of businesses. Most interpreters and translators are people who work for a company and have knowledge of a foreign language, rather than professionals.

You will also find this course useful if you wish to follow a career in travel and tourism, marketing, public relations, European administration or law, teaching, interpreting and translating or journalism. Opportunities in the workplace are increasingly being opened up for those who can combine any subject or skill with a modern foreign language. Employers are very keen to recruit languages graduates.

Course Structure

Students study technological and social change, looking at diversity and the benefits it brings. They will study highlights of French-speaking artistic culture, including francophone music and cinema, and learn about political engagement and who wields political power in the French-speaking world.

Students also explore the influence of the past on present-day French-speaking communities. Throughout their studies, they will learn the language in the context of French-speaking countries and the issues and influences which have shaped them. Students will study texts and film and have the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of their choice.

Assessment tasks will be varied and cover listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Each skill is assessed at the end of the course in a terminal examination.

A Level consists of modules centered on the following topic areas:

- Aspects of French-speaking society
- Multiculturalism in French-speaking society
- Political and artistic culture

Students will be invited to present, discuss and take a clear stance on any issue of their choice, demonstrating their skills in advanced-level French.

Students will also show evidence of independent, advanced-level French language reading and research of a chosen text, play, film or topic area that links to the culture and/or society of a French speaking country or community.