

# French

## Subject Information Sheet

Course Title:	French
Subject:	A-Level French
Qualification:	A-Level
Exam Board:	AQA
General Course Description	<p>The content of A-Level French is both stimulating and relevant in today's society. This is a course which allows you to master the French language whilst teaching you about the culture of Francophone countries.</p> <p>The course will enable you to develop your linguistic skills alongside your understanding of the culture of societies where French is spoken. Throughout your studies, you will learn the language in the context of French-speaking countries and the issues and influences which have shaped them. Classroom activities and assessment tasks will be engaging and will fully develop your listening, speaking, reading, writing and translation skills. As group sizes are small you will benefit from individual help and support throughout the course.</p>
Course Content and Teaching Units	<p>Over the two-year course you will study the following topics:</p> <p>Aspects of French speaking society: current trends.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The changing nature of family</li> <li>• The 'cyber-society'</li> <li>• The place of voluntary work</li> </ul> <p>Artistic culture in the French speaking world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A culture proud of its heritage</li> <li>• Contemporary francophone music</li> <li>• Cinema: the 7<sup>th</sup> art form</li> </ul> <p>Aspects of French speaking society: current issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positive features of a diverse society</li> <li>• Life for the marginalised</li> <li>• How criminals are treated</li> </ul>

	<p>Aspects of political life in the French speaking world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment</li> <li>• Demonstrations, strikes-who holds the power?</li> <li>• Politics and immigration</li> </ul> <p><u>Film:</u> <i>La Haine</i>, Mathieu Kassovitz.</p> <p><i>La Haine</i> is a cult film set in the suburbs of Paris and tells the story of 24 hours in the life of three young friends the day after a violent riot in the city. This film gives you an insight into life in the suburbs and the struggles faced by those who live on the edge of society.</p> <p><u>Novel:</u> TBC. Likely to be <i>Un Sac de Billes</i>, by Joseph Joffo.</p> <p><i>Un Sac de Billes</i> tells the fascinating story of a small Jewish boy's flight, with his brother Maurice, to escape from Nazi-occupied France during World War II.</p>
Entry Requirements	Grade 6 in GCSE French.
Assessment	<p><b>Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing</b> (2 hours 30 minutes) There are 100 marks available and the paper is worth 50% of the A-Level mark.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Listening and responding to spoken passages from a range of contexts and sources (you have an individual computer and you have control of the recording).</li> <li>• Reading and responding to a variety of texts written for different purposes, drawn from authentic sources.</li> <li>• Translation into English; a passage of minimum 100 words.</li> <li>• Translation into French; a passage of minimum 100 words.</li> </ul> <p><b>Paper 2: Writing</b> (2 hours) There are 80 marks available and this counts for 20% of the A-Level mark.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One essay on the film <i>La Haine</i> (choice of two questions).</li> <li>• One essay on the book <i>Un Sac de Billes</i> (choice of two questions).</li> </ul> <p><b>Paper 3: Speaking</b> (21-23 minutes including 5 minutes of preparation time). There are 60 marks available, and the paper is worth 30% of the overall A-Level mark.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of a sub-theme with the discussion based on a stimulus card (5 – 6 minutes). You study the card for 5 minutes at the start of the test.</li> <li>• Presentation (2 minutes) and discussion (9 – 10 minutes) of your Individual Research Project.</li> </ul>

Financial Information	<p>You may wish to take part in a visit to France which we hope to offer. Details of costs will be released as appropriate. We have previously secured funding to support pupils from lower income families to attend.</p>
Progression Opportunities	<p>An A-Level in French is highly valued by universities and employers. The communication skills that you gain from A-Level French make you an ideal candidate for any degree in the future whether that relates to French or not.</p> <p>A-Level French can lead to further study of the subject at university either as a main subject or the subsidiary part of a degree. Students who continue with some French at university would have the opportunity to spend a year abroad in a French-speaking country.</p> <p>Increasing numbers of higher education courses combine language modules ranging from complete beginner to post A-level in a wide range of scientific, management and arts packages as well as ‘pure’ language degree courses. Many of these are “applied” types of course with employment opportunities in mind.</p> <p>Our last Y13 cohort went on to take the following degree courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maths at Cambridge University (with a year abroad in France)</li> <li>• Physics at Cambridge University (with a year abroad in France.)</li> <li>• A gap year in Nepal followed by a degree in Economics at the University of Bristol</li> <li>• French and German (taking German from scratch) at the University of Manchester</li> <li>• Maths (with a year in France) at Durham University</li> <li>• Psychology at Nottingham Trent University</li> <li>• European Business and French at Manchester Metropolitan University</li> <li>• Law (with a year in France) at the University of Sheffield</li> </ul> <p>The world is your oyster!</p> <p>Careers where A-Level French is useful include interpreting, translation, teaching, marketing, media, law, and work in the travel and tourism industry, economics, business and lots more.</p>
Further Information about our courses including results	<p>The staff teaching A-Level French are very experienced in delivering this course. Previous students have achieved fantastic examination results in A-Level French (75% of the last cohort’s Year 12 students achieved a grade A in French with 100% of the course achieving grades A-C) and have found the course to be incredibly engaging.</p>

	<p>Group sizes for A-Level French are traditionally small meaning that you have access to personalised teaching with lots of individual support. This is perfect for developing both your confidence and ability in the subject.</p> <p>In the past we have had students who opt to take a whole range of other A-Levels to complement their French course. The nature of the A-Level means that it pairs with absolutely any other subject. Previous students have taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maths, Further Maths, Physics and French</li> <li>• Maths, Physics and French</li> <li>• History, Government and Politics and French</li> <li>• Sociology, Psychology and French</li> <li>• Sociology, History and French</li> <li>• Economics, Maths and French</li> </ul>
Trips, visits and extra-curricular	<p>The France visit changes each year so that students have the opportunity to experience French culture. Previously, students have undertaken work experience in a small rural college in Burgundy, teaching Y7-10 pupils English and how to play the game of rounders (in French).</p> <p>The aim of our KS5 French trip is to provide an immersive language experience including undertaking work experience in French. In addition, student will use conversational French to buy food and metro tickets in Paris. We support students to plan elements of the trip in order that it becomes personalised to the class. This also helps develop their skills and foster a sense of independence that they will need when planning their own trips in the future.</p>