

GCSE French

Examination Board:

AQA

Director of Learning:

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Why study French?

This course is designed to help students of all abilities to develop their language skills to their full potential, equipping them with the knowledge to communicate in a variety of contexts with confidence.

You will build on the skills and knowledge which you have acquired in Y7, Y8 and Y9.

This course also aims to expand students' cultural knowledge whilst developing their language skills, so students can expect to work on more authentic texts, such as songs, videos, and news articles.

You will study a range of topics across three broad themes. Some are topics which you will already be familiar with, such as:

- Free time
- Family and friends
- My town.
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Others will be entirely new, such as:

- Environment
- Homelessness
- Health and wellbeing.

Possible next steps (including careers)

In order to continue studying a foreign language at A-level, our students would need to achieve at least a grade 6 at GCSE.

Any student who achieves a language GCSE will stand out to college and universities' admissions tutors and future employers, as it's a very respected academic qualification. Having a second language is extremely valuable in the world of work, because you can travel and work abroad and communicate with customers and partners in different countries. Learning a language also helps you to develop a wide array of transferable skills, such as problem-solving, better listening skills and improved memory.

For some jobs you may need to be an expert linguist, such as translating, interpreting, and teaching languages. Furthermore, there are also lots of career where having a GCSE language qualification would be a real asset. For instance, the ability to speak another language at any level is highly sought after in marketing, law, business, the travel and tourism industry, logistic, medicine, and many more.

Aptitudes needed

Languages students must be prepared to learn vocabulary and grammar thoroughly on a regular basis, both in school and at home. It's also expected that students will participate actively in speaking activities, so it's important that you are resilient and not afraid to make mistakes. An interest in the French culture is also recommended.

Topic Structure

Assessment is set in the context of these three themes.

- Theme 1: People and lifestyle
- Theme 2: Popular culture
- Theme 3: Communication and the world around us

Assessment Structure

There are 2 levels of entry: higher grades 9-4 and foundation grades 5-1.

The students will be tested on the four skills:

- Listening
- Speaking
- Reading
- Writing

Each weighing 25% of the final grade