

# A Level French

Awarding Body: AQA

Course Length: 2 years

## **Subject Entry Requirement**

Grade 5 or above in English & Maths

Ideally Grade 6 or above in French GCSE

## **Assessment**

The exam is taken in May/June and consists of three papers, all externally assessed: A speaking examination lasting approximately 18 minutes; a listening, reading and writing paper (2 hours 30 minutes); and an essay paper (2 hours).

## **Contact**

Mrs M Colmer, Subject Lead MFL

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## What will I Learn?

The course covers a wide variety of current issues over the two years. As well as revising and extending some of the topics studied at GCSE, students will learn about social and cultural themes within the Francophone society, including social values, equality and multiculturalism, regional identity and the influence of heritage, as well as studying aspects of politics and history. In addition, students will study in depth both a film and a work of literature. Grammar and language skills are integrated into the topic areas.

## Why choose French?

If you have a talent for learning languages, then you might want to consider studying French at A-Level. With our world becoming more globalised by the day, the ability to speak another language, even if only to A-Level, can open up many doors in your career and academic life.

## French is A Key Global Language

French is spoken by 74 million people across the world, notably in France and former French territories. Being able to speak French can provide you with travel and work opportunities. In fact, according to the British Council's 2013 report 'Languages for the Future', 49% of UK businesses look for employees who can speak French, meaning studying the language will be a huge asset to your career. With a projected 750 million speakers by 2050, being able to speak the French language is a powerful skill to have. If you're planning on continuing onto higher education after school, then your knowledge of French will give you the opportunity to take a gap year in various French-speaking countries across the world. Your language skills will also provide you with opportunities to work abroad in summer camps, where you can truly put your language skills to good use. Studying French at A-Level, not only improves your language skills, but it provides you with insights into France's history and culture. If you do plan on travelling after school, this knowledge will truly enhance your experience. With France being one of the UK's largest European trading partners, French can provide you with a number of career opportunities. As mentioned above, the British Council sees French to be a big asset to UK companies, and post-Brexit it's likely to continue to grow in importance.

Many French-speaking countries lie in Africa, which is a burgeoning global marketplace. With countries such as Tanzania and Cote D'Ivoire being rich in natural resources, the ability to speak French could allow you to pursue careers related to resources such as gold and petroleum. Besides the travel and work opportunities, studying French provides a range of academic benefits too.

If you're interested in studying subjects such as Philosophy, Theatre or Literature at university level, then having knowledge of the French language can be beneficial, given its historical associations with these subjects.

If I am interested in French I should read:

Careers with French : <https://successatschool.org/advicedetails/397/Careers-in-Languages-Where-Can-Languages-Take-You%3F>

Why Languages can take you further : <https://successatschool.org/advicedetails/204/facilitating-subjects>