

FRENCH

Choosing French A Level opens up a world of opportunities! Not only will you develop amazing French language skills, but you'll also dive into the rich culture of France and the wider French-speaking world. You'll gain confidence in using French in real-life situations, while also deepening your understanding of French grammar. Plus, you'll explore fascinating cultural topics, discuss ideas in class, and work both independently and as part of a group. If you love learning about the world and enjoy sharing your ideas, French A Level is for you!

Specific course entry requirements

To take A Level French, you'll need at least a Grade 6 in GCSE French and you must have taken the Higher Tier papers (please refer to the Entry Requirements section on the college website for further details).

How will I be assessed?

- Component 1 – Speaking (30%)
- Component 2 – Listening, Reading, and Translation (50%)
- Component 3 – Writing (20%)

What will I study?

Year 1: In your first year, you'll explore topics that link language to real-life issues.

You'll discuss:

- The benefits and dangers of technology in today's world, the changing nature of family life, citizenship, the importance of heritage, and the impact of music, art and cinema in the French-speaking world.

You'll also have additional, dedicated speaking lessons in very small groups to build your confidence and fluency.

Another change from GCSE is that you'll study a French film. We currently study *Intouchables*, one of the most loved French films of the last 20 years. Based on a true story, it's hilarious and heartwarming, tackling serious topics like racism, ableism, social inequality, and the power of friendship.

Of course, you'll also sharpen your grammar and translation skills, helping you communicate like a pro.

Year 2: In the second year, the topics get even more interesting. You'll discuss:

- Multicultural society, cultural identity and diversity, immigration and integration, discrimination and diversity and the occupation of France during World War 2.

You'll also study a seminal French novel of the 20th century. We currently study *L'Étranger* by Albert Camus, an absolute classic. It's set in Algeria, a French colony at the time, and follows Meursault, a man who doesn't fit into society. After his mother's death, he ends up committing a shocking crime. It's a deep, thought-provoking story about life, choices, and meaning – perfect for curious minds.

Finally, you'll have the chance to create your own research project on a topic that interests you personally. This forms the basis of your speaking examination, in which you completely control the narrative! From sports to science, history, music, travel, food, and beyond- if it's connected to the French-speaking world, the possibilities are endless! You get to shape your own learning, and our students love the freedom to explore what they're passionate about.

Where will this course lead me?

An A Level in French opens doors! Universities and employers love students who can speak another language. It makes you stand out in today's global world and offers a huge range of career opportunities. French pairs well with just about any subject – whether it's Arts, Business, Law, Science, or anything else.

With A Level French, you're preparing for exciting careers where communication is key: business, aviation, law, engineering, marketing, sports, medicine, teaching, journalism, and so much more. It's a subject that gives you skills for life!