



French

Overview

As a highly regarded facilitating subject, French is undoubtedly a challenging but thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding A Level subject. The course is a natural evolution from your GCSE as you will continue to work on the same four key skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) as well as translation into and out of French. You will study many interesting aspects of French-speaking society and the French-speaking world, including social change, the media, diversity and the benefits and challenges it brings, highlights of artistic culture, and political life. The course also offers insight into key historical periods in France and their legacy. There are also opportunities to explore some of the most well-known works of literature and film in the French-speaking world. The full A Level course allows also for independent research in an area of your choice.

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing 40% of A Level Course, 2 hours. Assessment of aspects of French speaking society's current trends and issues, Francophone artistic and political culture, the Occupation and grammar.

Paper 2: Writing 30% of A Level Course, 2 hours and 40 minutes. Two 300-word essays on each of our studied film (*Au revoir les enfants*) and text (*L'étranger*).

Paper 3: Speaking 30%, 21-23 minutes. Presentation and discussion of your Individual Research Project. Discussion of a card on one of the themes from aspects of a French speaking society.

Expectations:

Prior to the beginning of the course, you will be expected to complete a transition grammar pack, covering key features from the GCSE specification. You will have a passion for all things French and a commitment to developing all your language skills, both in the classroom and beyond. Throughout the course, you are encouraged to keep up to date with French culture, for example by listening to/reading the news from French speaking countries, and to make the most of the many excellent opportunities the internet offers for research, insights and immersion into French language and culture. You will be a self-motivated and independent learner, able and willing to take responsibility for and track your own progress.

Extra-Curricular Activities / Independent Learning Opportunities:

Students will be able to act as mentors for younger students of French. We have theatre/film trips to view francophone productions or be invited to join relevant talks by the Modern Foreign Languages Department at Oundle School, with whom we have a good relationship.

Students also have the opportunity to engage with the MFL department at the University of Leicester, visiting the campus and being able to gauge what it is like to continue their study of French at University.

There is a huge variety of online resources available for learning and enjoying French outside the classroom and you will be encouraged to use these to research your chosen topic for your Individual Research Project in Y13. The department has a small lending library of French films and books, and newspapers and radio stations are also easily available online.

Entry Requirement: There are no additional entry requirements to those mentioned in the Sixth Form Prospectus. However, students should have GCSE French at Grade 5 or above.