



French A level – U6

Curriculum Intent

The French department seeks to develop ambitious and resilient linguists who recognise their common humanity and strive to gain inter-cultural understanding and respect. We aim to provide an understanding of French in a range of themes from social changes, global issues and history which enables students to communicate effectively in authentic situations on their exchange visits and be prepared for the challenges of developing the language at a higher level and with an aspiration to continue the language at University or to at least see its value in their future career paths. We intend to develop our students to be inquisitive and curious about French-speaking cultures, knowledgeable and understanding, open-minded and courageous as they personally develop through their learning of French

„Ma patrie, c'est la langue française,“ Albert Camus

Students will learn:

Theme 3

- Immigration and multicultural France
- The rise of Extreme Right

Theme 4

- Occupation and Resistance
- Jean Moulin and other great figures
- **Extensive work on essay writing skills and cultural work through the study of a film and a book.**
- L'Étranger by Albert Camus
- La Haine by Mathieu Kassovitz
- Independent Research Project:
 - Develop research skills and cultural understanding through the Independent Research Project
 - Revision of first year themes and film study

What does excellence look like?

- Confident and accurate use of French with varied vocabulary and structures, including complex language.
- Critical analysis of issues, themes and cultural or social contexts demonstrated through convincing interpretations.
- Consistent use of evidence to justify points of view.
- Detailed, logical arguments and conclusions that consistently link.

Knowledge, understanding & Skills

- Vocabulary of themes covered
- Response to spoken text in writing, showing understanding of the main points, gist and detail.
- Response to written text in writing and speaking.
- Summary of a spoken text in writing.
- Translation into and from French
- Discussion on a theme showing knowledge and understanding of the target language context and culture.
- Developing an argument and reaching a logical conclusion.
- Expressing viewpoints and justifying opinions.
- Use of appropriate literary and film vocabulary.
- Relating the work to key concepts, issues and the social context and writing a critical response.

How can you enhance your learning at home?

- All students have access to a French Sixth Form Padlet with a wealth of online resources such as LePointduFle, 20minutes.fr, TV5Monde, languagesonline, Quizlet and Memrise.
- Hodder Edexcel A level textbook.
- Flipped Learning.
- Accompanying work on Dynamic Learning.
- Essay banks.
- ZigZag Resources for Reading and Listening comprehension.
- Translation Tasks.
- Oxford A level French translation workbook.
- William Tweed Resources Library.
- Research each of the themes to build up a knowledge bank with facts and statistics.

How will we assess impact?

Our teaching encourages regular learning of key vocabulary and refinement of grammatical structures that are tested regularly. Translation skills are honed via weekly 10-point tests. Teachers assess pupils less formally in class via the four skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing. Pupils work collaboratively in pairs and groups to constantly improve their speaking skills, providing peer feedback.

Each half-term pupils take an assessment in test conditions during lesson time. In January of Upper Sixth pupils take a full-length A level-style examination, which helps to predict their final grade as accurately as possible and to offer the students an opportunity to experience the speed and attention to detail required in the examination. Students control the audio themselves for listening, within a set time limit. All pupils have a full-length mock A level speaking examination to help to prepare them for the real assessment.



International Opportunities

Visits Programme

Options for visits to France in the Upper Sixth are more limited. Our Upper Sixth students act as ambassadors for our visits programme, encouraging younger students to be brave and to grab the opportunity to stay with a French-speaking family or to undertake work experience abroad.

Many of our French A level students took part in the long-term visit to Lyon in year 10 or the work experience visit in the Lower Sixth and continue to meet their partners for years to come!

There is an opportunity for an A level Literature & Film Study Day, in London.

Within the curriculum

The second year of the French A level curriculum continues to deepen understanding and appreciation of French-speaking culture, via the study of the themes and the Independent Research Project. Previous topics have included the Philosopher Voltaire, the consequences of the colonisation in North Africa and the Francophonie in Quebec.

Students had to research from the first year to ensure that they can draw on a wide knowledge of the culture and society in the final speaking examination, and to deepen their vocabulary.

