

POST 16 SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Post 16 Subject Overview

Name of Subject – French

Which Examination Specification is Studied for this Course?

AQA

Why should I study this course?

You will learn to communicate effectively with speakers of the foreign language and you will take more ownership over what you say, to enable you to be more creative with the language and express and understand complex ideas.

You will gain an insight into life in the French speaking world through the study of different aspects of the cultures and societies where the languages are spoken. You will develop your fluency and accuracy in the foreign language and you will be able to express more complex ideas. You will learn to understand longer, more complex spoken exchanges and texts. Your language skills will develop through the study of French-speaking countries and societies. You will study highlights of French political life and learn about aspects of these multicultural societies. You will study at least one book in French and one film.

Additionally, you will carry out an independent research project on an aspect of the French-speaking world which interests you.

The skills that you will develop will include deepening your awareness of language and languages in general, which will make you a better communicator in the foreign language and in English. As you overcome the barriers of communication and have to think on the spot, you will grow in confidence, which will be invaluable in many careers and all job interviews.

You will develop your independence and resilience, making you more attractive to employers as well as universities. You will think critically and analytically, questioning opinions and ideas. Your understanding of the workings of the language will enable you to learn additional foreign languages more easily in the future, should you choose or need to do so.

Who is suitable to study this course?

This course would suit anyone with an interest and passion for French and Francophone culture. A Level French pairs well with a wide variety of other subjects at Post-16 such as, but by no means limited to, History and Politics, English Literature and Media Studies. Students studying sciences will equally find

an A Level in French of immense benefit when applying to top universities. In terms of future opportunities, aside from the obvious career paths (translator, interpreter, teacher), many businesses and other organisations (e.g. the armed forces, charities) require speakers of foreign languages. Any business or organisation which deals with French-speaking countries needs speakers of those languages to communicate with clients who speak little or poor English, either on the phone, via email or in person. An ability to speak another language opens many doors in marketing, sales, and customer services. A language can also be a useful skill to enhance a career in law, journalism, banking, or politics.

What GCSE Qualifications Support the Study of this Course? French

What are the Qualification Requirements for this Course?

GCSE Grade 5 in French

How is the Course Delivered? - Students usually have two teachers at A Level and have four hours of contact time. In most years, students will also have an additional hour with the French Language Assistant to work on speaking skills. Students would be expected to engage in four hours of independent study each week to supplement their contact time with their teachers. Google Classroom is regularly used to help support students to manage their homework and essay writing.

Subject Overview		
Half Term	Year 12	Year 13
Autumn 1	The role of the Internet in French-speaking society. The changing family in French-speaking society.	Immigration, Integration and Crime in the French-speaking world. Set work (L'Étranger) Individual Research Project
Autumn 2	Cinema in French-speaking society. The role of the volunteer and NGOs in French-speaking society.	Young People and Politics in the French-speaking world. Set work (L'Étranger) Individual Research Project
Spring 1	History and Heritage in French-speaking society. Set work (film - La Haine)	Protests, Demonstrations and the Right to Vote. Individual Research Project

Spring 2	Contemporary music in the French-speaking world. Set work (film - La Haine)	Politics and Immigration; Government in French-speaking countries. Individual Research Project.
Summer 1	Artistic Culture in the French-speaking world. Set work (film - La Haine)	Diverse Society Revision of Set Works.
Summer 2	Artistic Culture in the French-speaking world. Set work (book - L'Étranger) Individual Research Project introduction.	Exam preparation and Set Works.

Relevant grammar and vocabulary will be studied alongside the topics.

How is the Course Assessed?

You will be assessed in the 4 skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking. As part of the assessment you will need to translate into English and into the foreign language.

The assessment will be a 100% examination.

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing

Exam subject content:

- Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends
- Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues
- Artistic culture in the French-speaking world
- Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world

- Grammar

This is a written exam that lasts 2 hours and 30 minutes and accounts for 50% the qualification.

Questions covered by the exam:

- Listening and responding to spoken passages from a range of contexts and sources covering different registers and adapted as necessary. Material will include complex factual and abstract content and questions will target main points, gist and detail. Studio recordings will be used and students will have individual control of the recording. All questions are in French, to be answered with non-verbal responses or in French (30 marks).
- Reading and responding to a variety of texts written for different purposes, drawn from a range of authentic sources and adapted as necessary. Material will include complex factual and abstract content and questions will target main points, gist and detail. All questions are in French, to be answered with non-verbal responses or in French.
- Translation into English; a passage of minimum 100 words.
- Translation into French; a passage of minimum 100 words.

Paper 2: Writing

Questions covered by the exam:

- One text and one film or two texts from the list of set works.
- Grammar

This is a written exam that lasts 2 hours and accounts for 20% of the qualification. Questions are in French on set texts from a choice of two questions on each text. All questions are answered in French and will require a critical appreciation of the concepts and issues covered in the work and a critical and analytical response to features such as the form and the technique of presentation, as appropriate to the work studied (eg the effect of narrative voice in a prose text or camera work in a film). Students are advised to write approximately 300 words per essay.

Paper 3 Speaking

Questions covered in the exam:

- Discussion of one of four themes covered in the course.
- Individual research project.

This is a spoken exam that lasts 21 to 23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time) and accounts for 30% of the qualification.

The first part of the exam consists of a discussion of a sub-theme based on a stimulus card (5–6 minutes). The student studies the card for 5 minutes at the start of the test.

The second part of the exam consists of a presentation of the student's Individual Research Project (2 minutes) followed by a discussion (9–10 minutes) of the student's findings from the Individual Research Project.

Praising Stars assessments mirror the format of the examination to give regular experience of the assessment requirements.

What is our Recommended Subject Reading list to Support your Study? - *Book list can also include articles, websites, podcast, wider reading, links to a school intranet of resources etc*

One of the following books is to be studied for Paper 2. The usual chosen work is highlighted in bold but students are encouraged to read others to broaden their knowledge of French literature wherever possible.

- **Albert Camus** *L'étranger*
- Molière *Le Tartuffe*
- Voltaire *Candide*
- Guy de Maupassant *Boule de Suif et autres contes de la guerre*
- Françoise Sagan *Bonjour tristesse*
- Claire Etcherelli *Elise ou la vraie vie*
- Joseph Joffo *Un sac de billes*
- Faïza Guène *Kiffe kiffe demain*
- Philippe Grimbert *Un secret*
- Delphine de Vigan *No et moi*

One of the following films is to be studied for Paper 2. The usual chosen work is highlighted in bold but students are encouraged to watch others to broaden their knowledge of French cinema wherever possible.

- ***La Haine* Mathieu Kassovitz (1995)**
- *Les 400 coups* François Truffaut (1959)
- *Au revoir les enfants* Louis Malle (1987)
- *L'auberge espagnole* Cédric Klapisch (2002)
- *Un long dimanche de fiançailles* Jean-Pierre Jeunet (2004)
- *Entre les murs* Laurent Cantet (2008)

Textbook used for the course: AQA A/S and A Level French (Oxford University Press)

Post-16 MFL Website:

[Modern Foreign Languages - FRENCH KS5 \(google.com\)](#)

