



In the Languages Department, we're passionate about the benefits that learning a language can bring. We strongly believe in languages as a skill for life and something which you should enjoy and find rewarding.

Why should I study this course?

If you enjoy communicating with other people, finding out how language works and learning about different countries and cultures, studying GCSE French is an excellent choice for you.

You will learn to understand a lot more French when you hear it, or read it and be able to say and write a lot more in French.

There are many reasons for taking this GCSE course:

- You will be able to share your interests, ideas and opinions with other people who speak French
- You will learn about the Countries where French is spoken and get a lot more from a visit there
- You will add an international dimension to your choice of GCSE subjects, which is something many future employers and higher education providers look for
- You will learn many skills which are useful in a wide range of future careers, such as the ability to communicate clearly, being confident about speaking in public, using problem-solving strategies, etc
- You will create greater opportunities for yourself to work abroad, or for companies in the UK with international links. Many employers look for people who speak a foreign language

What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

If you've studied French at Key Stage 3, you're well prepared to do this GCSE course. You already know a lot of the vocabulary and grammar you'll need for GCSE. You know how to talk about yourself, your family and friends, your hobbies, where you live, school, holidays, food and drink. You'll build on these topics during your GCSE course, as well as moving on to new topics.

What will I be learning about?

There are 3 distinct themes which cover the 4 skills areas of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing:

Theme 1 - Identity and Culture which includes:	Theme 2 - Local, national, international and global areas of interest which includes:	Theme 3 – Current and future study and employment which includes:
Me, my family and friends Technology in everyday life Free-time activities Customs and festivals in French-speaking countries and communities	Home town, neighbourhood and region Social issues Global issues Travel and Tourism	My studies Life at school/college Education post-16 Jobs, career choices and ambitions

How will I be assessed?

You will sit all exams at the end of the course. Each skill area is worth 25%.

You will either take the Foundation Tier test or the Higher Tier tests.

Listening	Speaking	Reading	Writing
Written exam with questions in English to answer in English or non-verbally and questions in French to answer in French or non-verbally.	Your teacher will assess you. There are 3 tasks: Role-play, Photo card and General conversation.	Written exam with questions in English to answer in English or non-verbally and questions in French to answer in French or non-verbally. Translation from French into English.	Written exam with a variety of tasks e.g. a message, a short passage (Foundation tier), a structured writing task and translation from English into French (Foundation and Higher tier), an open-ended writing task (Higher tier).

What can I do after the course?

People with language skills and knowledge are highly thought of in the modern world. They stand out as talented and successful people, with broad and exciting horizons! Taking GCSE French means you will:

- have much more fun when travelling to a French speaking country
- be able to study A Level French
- add an extra dimension to your personal skills profile which will impress anyone who reads your CV
- be in a stronger position to get a job in companies with international links or to work abroad.

