

LANGUAGES - FRENCH

Course

A level French

Exam Board

AQA

Entry requirements

Grade 6 at GCSE

Why study French?

If you love France and all things French then why not consider studying French at A level?

If you have enjoyed learning French up to GCSE level, enjoyed communicating in French and if you want to learn more about France and the French way of life then A level French is for you! We use a variety of teaching resources including newspapers and magazine style material plus authentic resources such as films, music and blogs.

We work with language assistants to provide in-class support and also individual or small group appointments to develop speaking skills and cultural awareness. Students will be moving away from reliance on pre-prepared work and focus on becoming increasingly spontaneous, and exploring the culture and history of the French-speaking world.

Course content

The themes listed below are covered over the two year course, with grammatical concepts taught in context.

- Current trends in French-speaking society.
- Current issues in French-speaking society.
- Artistic culture in the French-speaking world.
- Political life in the French-speaking world.

You will also study a film and a book or play, and carry out an extensive Individual Research Project on a topic of your choice.

Assessment

Paper 1: 160 marks, 40% of total A level.

Listening, reading and writing (translation French into English and English into French)

2h 30

Paper 2: 90 marks, 30% of total A level.

Writing. 2 essays on the 2 literary works studied.

2 hours.

Paper 3: 60 marks, 30% of total A level.

Speaking. Discussion of a sub-theme studies and a presentation and discussion on the student's chosen topic for the Individual Research Project.

Speaking exam lasts between 21 & 23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time)

Progression after Sixth Form

A large proportion of students who take a language at A level at St Peter's go on to study languages at university. Others opt for vocational courses with a foreign language. It is also possible and increasingly useful, to combine a foreign language at degree level with an unrelated subject such as a Science, Law or Business Studies. This opens the door to placements abroad and increased job opportunities.

Career opportunities

Many employers value competence in a foreign language, not only for the ability you will have to communicate effectively with other nationalities but also for the fact that it demonstrates good organisational skills, determination to succeed over an extended period and the ability to retain key information.

Studying a language can lead to careers in teaching, translation, the travel industry, journalism, customs and all businesses involved in exporting and importing goods and services.

For more information contact Head of Department:

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