

# FRENCH

A Level

Awarding Body: EDEXCEL

## Course Content

The following topic areas are covered at over the 2 year course:

**Topic 1:** Changes in French society – family life, education, the world of work

**Topic 2:** Political culture and the Arts in French-speaking countries – music, the Media, festivals and traditions.

**Topic 3:** Immigration and the multicultural society in France – the positive impact of immigration on French society, the challenges of immigration and integration, the Far Right.

**Topic 4:** The Occupation and the Resistance during WW2 – Occupied France, the Vichy government, the French Resistance.

At A Level students are required to study 2 works: 1 literary text and 1 film in the French language.

## Grammar

Nouns	Articles	Adjectives	Numerals	Adverbs	Quantifiers/Intensifiers	Pronouns	Verbs
Prepositions	Conjunctions	Negation	Questions	Commands	Discourse Markers	Word order	Fillers

## Assessment

### Paper 1: Listening, reading and translation into English

2 hour written exam

40% of qualification

80 marks

### Paper 2: Written response to works and translation into French

Written exam of 2 hours 40 minutes

30% of the qualification

120 marks

### Paper 3: Speaking – discussion on 1 of the 4 topics plus independent research presentation and discussion

23 minutes (includes 5 minutes' preparation time)

30% of qualification

72 marks

## Teaching and Learning Methods / Skills and expectations

Students are taught:

- Listening, speaking, reading and writing skills to enable them to communicate effectively and confidently on a variety of issues.
- Essay writing skills, including how to give considered and informed responses to open questions.
- Contextualised grammar and vocabulary, which are practised, reinforced and tested in each of the 4 skills in each topic and sub-topic area.
- The importance of communication, including good pronunciation, intonation and clarity of meaning.

It is important that students are aware of the world around them by regularly reading a quality newspaper and/or news website in their own language as well as in French.

Students are expected and encouraged to use vocabulary books and grammar books and they should keep their work in a well-organised folder. The folder will include all assessed work which will include written feedback and opportunity for the students to reflect on their learning and to evidence this.

Regular learning of vocabulary and wider reading and listening of French are essential to ensure progress.

## **Costs**

All students are provided with a text book, vocabulary and grammar book. We recommend that each student purchase their own copy of the textbook, the DVD of the film and the novel which we will provide details of.

## **Transferable skills**

Higher education institutions and employers have a need for students to develop a range of transferable skills to enable them to respond confidently to the demands of undergraduate study and the world of work.

The transferable skills practised at A Level French include:

- Cognitive skills: Non-routine problem solving; Systems thinking; Critical thinking; ICT literacy
- Interpersonal skills: Communication; Relationship-building skills; Collaborative Problem-solving
- Intrapersonal skills: Adaptability; Self-management and Self-development

Previous A Level French students at Fullbrook have found that their French has given them an edge on those who do not have an A Level in a Modern Foreign Language. Students have gone on to University to study Law, Medical Sciences, Business and French. Others have found employment in local companies and at the airports.

French has strong cross-curricular links with many other subjects and is highly valued by Universities and future employers. University courses such as Medicine and Engineering favour students who have studied a language as it shows an ability to communicate and provides the opportunity to study/work abroad and/or to work for an International company at home or abroad.

Studying a language improves understanding of your own language and develops understanding and appreciation of other cultures.

**Entry requirements** Grade 6 or above at GCSE.

**Contact** For further information please contact Mrs J Armstrong, Head of MFL.