FRENCH

EXAM BOARD: AQA



Why study French A Level?

French A Level is more than just learning the language: it's about gaining a deeper understanding of culture across the Francophone world.

Do you want to explore contemporary French music to discover the latest trends? Do you fancy learning about the evolution of French cinema? How about debating who should have the right to vote in France?

The teaching staff for French A Level form a team of passionate linguistics who are committed to ensuring you become confident French speakers and successful students who have a life-long desire to continue to pursue languages.

Course Content:

Across the two-year course you will discover a range of topics which cover artistic, political and social aspects of French speaking society. Sub-topics include the changing nature of family, cyber society, positive features of a diverse society, how criminals are treated and politics and immigration. Within each topic you will revise the grammar which you learnt atGCSE and learn how to apply this grammar in more complex ways, with more confidence. You will also practise reading and listening skills to ensure you can understand, analyse and interpret different opinions on the range of topics.

In addition to the cultural topics, you will also study one book and one film. You will learn how to discuss and write about literary and cinematic techniques in French. You will be given expert advice on how to structure essays in French and extensive practice and feedback to ensure you succeed in this element in the final exam.

In Year 13 you will research a topic of your choice which you will then present and discuss in the Speaking exam in the Individual Research Project (IRP) component. Your choice of subject can be driven by your own passions or linked with another A Level subject you are studying. Perhaps you want to become an expert in French rugby? Or perhaps you're a historian who would like to research the emancipation of women in France? Why not discuss how French rapper, Diam's, conveys marginalisation in society through her lyrics?

Assessments:

All exams will be sat at the end of Year 13 and will be comprised of the following assessments:

Paper 1 (50% of A Level): Listening, Reading and Writing
Paper 2 (20% of A Level): Writing
Paper 3 (30% of A Level): Speaking

Self-study requirements:

Regular practice of the French language, through listening, reading, writing and speaking will be integral to you succeeding at French A Level. We will give you ideas on how you can immerse yourself in the French language outside of lessons. We expect an hour of self-study for every hour of taught lesson.

French for Business Enrichment:

As a French A Level student at Stratford upon Avon School you will have an extra two lessons a fortnight to gain a Level 2 qualification in French for Business in Year 12, and a further Level 3 qualification in Year 13 in French for Business (with a credit of 16 extra UCAS points). Within this Enrichment, you will not only be able to consolidate the grammar knowledge you need to succeed at French A Level, but also learn to apply your knowledge of French in a business context. You will learn skills such as writing a CV in French, planning a business trip and pitching your own business idea, Dragon Den style!

Combining both French A Level with a French for Business qualification will ensure you have an impressive knowledge of the French language, acquire new business skills and be exceptionally equipped to enter the world of work.

Our students, beyond Stratford: French has been identified by the Russell Group of top universities as a facilitating subject, meaning it prepares students for the most challenging academic study. As you acquire skills such as critical thinking, problem solving and essay writing, French A Level opens doors to so many careers, as well as the option to study French at university.