

French

Outline of Course

You cover a range of topics relating to yourself and your own interests, and topics from the French-speaking world. The French you learn will equip you to communicate in different ways, from dealing with practical situations, to expressing yourself creatively. You will build upon and broaden your knowledge of vocabulary and grammar.

You will be tested on the four skills; speaking and writing, which are controlled assessments in the classroom, worth 30% each whilst listening and reading are assessed in exams, and worth 20% each.

The themes studied in Year 10/11 are:

Term 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Life at home; family; friends and relationships.• Local area, facilities and getting around.
Term 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sports, outdoor pursuits and healthy lifestyle.• Food and drink.
Term 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Socialising, special occasions and festivals.• TV, films and music.
Term 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Holidays and exchanges.• Environmental issues and life in other countries.
Term 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School in the UK and francophone countries.• Work experience, future study and jobs, working abroad.

Special requirements

A bi-lingual dictionary (which should be brought to every lesson)

Course Requirements

A positive approach is essential!

Homework will be set weekly. Many pieces will be learning work, be it vocabulary or preparation for your speaking and writing assessments. Learning homework is equally as important as reading or writing tasks.

The Controlled assessments will take place throughout year 10 and 11. Your best two speaking tasks and best two writing tasks will be submitted to the exam board. Preparation is the key to success in these 2 skills.

How can parents help at home

It does not matter that you do not speak the language!

- Your child may need testing on vocabulary or set phrases. You can ask him/her the English and he/she says the French word.
- Encourage your child to create "turn and learn" cards: write words and phrases on cards with the English on one side and the French on the other. If he/she keeps them in a box, the cards can be referred to regularly in spare moments, e.g. during the commercial breaks when watching a favourite TV show.
- Allow your child to put post-it notes with key words and phrases in areas around the house, e.g. on a mirror, on the bathroom door. This way he/she will see the words on a regular basis.
- Suggest he/she does the learning homework first and then return to it briefly after all other homework. If vocabulary-learning is left until last it often gets left all together. Do it while he/she is fresh!