

FRENCH (AQA)



Course content

The French A level course builds on the knowledge and skills gained at GCSE, focusing on language, culture and society. The content is suitable for students who wish to progress to further study, including a modern languages degree. The approach is a focus on how French-speaking society has been shaped socially and culturally and how it continues to change.

In the lower sixth, aspects of the social context are studied, together with aspects of the artistic life of French-speaking countries. In Year 13 further aspects of the social background are covered, and the positive influences that diversity brings. Students also study aspects of the political landscape in a French-speaking country, looking at immigration from the political perspective and at the way in which political power is expressed. They also explore the extent to which teenagers are politically engaged and the future of political life in French-speaking society

Individual Research Project

Students must also identify a subject or a key question which is of interest to them and which relates to a country or countries where French is spoken. They must select relevant information in French from a range of sources including the internet. Students will demonstrate their ability to initiate and conduct individual research by analysing and summarising their findings, in order to present and discuss them in the speaking assessment.

Students may choose a subject linked to one of the themes or sub-themes or to one of the works. However, students must not base their research on the same text or film that they refer to in their written assessment. Students will study one book and one film in French for the written paper. We currently read "No et Moi" by Dephine de Vigan, a contemporary text looking at homelessness in Paris. We also watch "La Haine" directed by Matthieu Kassowitz, a study of racial unrest in the Parisian suburbs in the 1990s.

Syllabus

AQA Specification

Paper 1: - Aspects of French-speaking society: Social issues and trends

- Artistic culture in the French-speaking world
- Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world
- Grammar

Listening, Reading & Writing – 50% A level, (160 marks), 2 hours 30 mins.

Paper 2: - One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification

- Grammar

Writing - 20% A level, (90 marks), 2 hours

Paper 3: - Individual research project

- One of four sub-themes i.e. Aspects of French-speaking society

Speaking - 30% A level, (60 marks), 21 – 23 minutes.



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Reviewed December 2025