

French

Examination board: AQA

Pupils will explore French society in depth, examining French-speaking artistic culture, including francophone music and cinema, social and technological change. They will also learn about political engagement as well as who wields political power in the French-speaking world.

Pupils also explore the influence of the past on present-day French-speaking communities. Throughout their studies, they will learn the language in the context of French-speaking countries and the issues and influences which have shaped them. Pupils will study literary texts and have the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of their choice.

Assessment tasks will be varied and cover listening, speaking, reading, writing and translation skills.

Content: first year

1. Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends

- The changing nature of family
- The 'cyber-society'
- The place of voluntary work

2. Artistic culture in the French-speaking world

- A culture proud of its heritage
- Contemporary francophone music
- Cinema: the 7th art form

3. One literary text

4. Grammar + translations

Content: second year

1. Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues

- Positive features of a diverse society
- Life for the marginalised
- How criminals are treated

2. Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world

- Teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment

- Demonstrations, strikes – who holds the power?
- Politics and immigration

3. One literary text

4. Grammar + translations

5. Individual research project (speaking test)

Assessment

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing

Listening + reading

Questions will target main points, gist and detail and will require either non-verbal responses or responses in French. Questions will include the need to infer meaning and will include abstract material such as opinions, views, emotional reactions and personal experiences.

Translation

Pupils will translate a passage of at least 100 words from French into English.

Paper 2: Writing (Literature)

Pupils will answer an essay question in French for each of the two literary works they have studied

Co-curricular opportunities

- Sixth Form mentoring of younger pupils
- French teaching as part of outreach with primary schools
- Helping to run the French Club
- Enrichment lessons (including Oxbridge preparation)
- Cultural trip to Brussels/Lille
- Cinema trip
- University conference
- Translation competitions
- Charity event (baking competition to raise money for Macmillan Cancer)