

# FRENCH

## Course Details

Every student is examined in each of the four skills: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Students may be entered for either Foundation or Higher Tier but they must enter at the same tier for all four skills. There is **no** coursework element within this course - the writing component now takes the form of a final exam. During the course, students develop the four skills they have already encountered in language learning.

The emphasis is on the practical, the useful and the interesting. Students are not judged on whether they get every single word correct but on whether they understand and communicate effectively. Students currently use a variety of resources, including the Nelson Thornes GCSE coursebook and the accompanying online resource, *Kerboodle*. We also supplement this by authentic material - leaflets and brochures from France, TV programmes and recordings, and selectively use material from other coursebooks and the Internet. Students are encouraged to use their ICT skills where relevant. To enrich the work in the classroom, there are visits to France; we have links with Die, in a region towards the south of France and we usually offer a visit to Paris.

Students study three broad themes on which the assessments are based:

Theme 1: People and lifestyle.

Theme 2: Popular culture.

Theme 3: Communication and the world around us.

### Course Type/exam board:

GCSE // AQA

### Course Availability

Compulsory? No

Option for all? No

An option available to some students on advice from staff? Yes

### What subjects combine well with French?

GCSE French combines well with any other GCSE subjects.

### During the course, students develop four skills:

**Listening:** Understanding and responding to different types of spoken language. Dictation of short, spoken extracts.

**Speaking:** Communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purposes. Speaking test with the French teacher at the end of the course. Including a role-play, a photo card description and a reading aloud task in French.

**Reading:** Understanding and responding to different types of written language. Translation into English and inferring meanings of words.

**Writing:** Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes. Written exam includes a variety of tasks including translation from English into French.

## How is French assessed?

Assessment	% of GCSE
Listening Assessment	25%
Speaking Assessment	25%
Reading Assessment	25%
Writing Assessment	25%

## Student View

Qualifications in French and German are highly recognised and valuable.

I think taking a language opens lots of doors for the future.