French

Exam Board AQA
Qualification A-level
Entry Requirements Grade 6 in French, with consistent performance in all 4 skills. Students should have sat the higher tier at GCSE.

Content

In year one of the course there are 3 compulsory topics:

- Current trends in French-speaking society (the changing nature of family, the 'cyber-society' and the place of voluntary work)
- Artistic culture in the French-speaking world (a culture proud of its heritage, contemporary francophone music, cinema: the 7th art form)
- A study of a French-speaking film

In year two of the course there are 4 compulsory topics:

- Current trends in French-speaking society (positive features of a diverse society, life for the marginalised and how criminals are treated)
- Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world (teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment, demonstrations, strikes (who holds the power?) and politics and immigration
- A study of a French-speaking book

An individual research project linked to a French-speaking country or culture

Assessment

Assessment at the end of Year 13:
Unit 1 – Listening and Reading
2 hours 30 minutes, and forms **50%** of the total A-level marks
Unit 2 – Writing
2 hours, and forms **20%** of the total A-level marks
Unit 3 – Speaking
21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes of preparation time), and forms 30% of the total A-level marks

Career Prospects

French is a highly valued A-level and choosing it will increase your chances of gaining a place at a leading university. Languages combine well with virtually any subject for further study; the range of combined degrees and further education courses involving a language is limitless – from Accountancy to Theatre Studies. Many universities also offer the opportunity to take **a year abroad** whereby students can study their degree subject in another country and **expand,** develop and practise their language skills at the same time.