

A Level French at The Warriner School



French A Level

Examination Board: AQA

French syllabus number 7652

Entry Requirements: GCSE French Grade 6

Languages are all around us; they are used in so many situations whether at work, on holiday or just casually in day-to-day life – we live in a multilingual global society. Speaking a foreign language gives you access to a whole new world: music, the Internet, cultural history, people you would never otherwise have met. A great way to start getting to know and understand other people better is by learning their language.

There are three important things to remember about languages:

- We live in a multilingual world - not everyone speaks English. In fact, 94% of the world does not speak English as their first language and 75% of the world does not speak English at all.
- A little language can make a lot of difference. Many think that the only jobs available for language students are in translation, interpreting and teaching but this is not true. There are many opportunities in a huge range of industries and some knowledge of a foreign language is much in demand, as employers seek those capable of communicating with foreign customers or visitors.
- Languages improve the quality of your life and your understanding of how other people live and think. Learning languages will broaden your horizons and opportunities in the workplace, including increased opportunities for travel, promotion and better salaries. Studying languages teaches you all the skills that employers look for: an analytical mind; good thought process; amazing memory capacity; fantastic cultural and intercultural awareness; good communication; great team player. A language degree or having languages as part of your degree is also extremely useful—language graduates are among the most employable of all university graduates.

A-level French builds upon your existing knowledge gained at GCSE. The emphasis of the A-level French course focuses on improving communication in French through different means as well as being able to use it in a variety of situations. You will also develop an understanding of how a language works, as well as encourage enjoyment and provide a basis for further study of French.

Students study social and technological change alongside highlights of French-speaking artistic culture, including francophone music and cinema. Students 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. Students will also study a text and a film.

Assessment

The course is assessed through three units at the end of the two year course.

Paper 1—Listening, Reading and Writing (40% of A level)

Paper 2—Writing (30% of A level)

Paper 3—Speaking (30% of A level) which includes an individual research project

Students can now take a French AS instead of the Extended Project in the 6th Form.