

French Department

Staff

Head of French: Ciara McAnenny

Teachers of French – Michelle Glynn, Aileen McSorley, Conor Mullin , Andrea O Donnell, Catriona McLaughlin

Language Assistant

Adèle Segrestin

Aims of the Department

- To develop the ability to use languages effectively for purposes for practical communication
- To form a sound base of the skills, language and attitudes required for further study, work and leisure.
- To introduce pupils to other cultures and civilisations.
- To develop an awareness of the nature of language and language learning.
- To provide enjoyment and intellectual stimulation.
- To encourage positive attitudes to language learning and to the speakers of other languages and a sympathetic approach to other cultures and civilisations.
- To promote skills of a more general application to all learning processes, for example analysis, memorising and the drawing of inferences.
- To help all pupils secure a pass grade at GCSE, AS and A Level.

Description of the curriculum

Key Stage 3

Topics covered:

- Everyday routine and weekend activities
- Physical descriptions
- Personal details
- Family details/jobs
- Friends details
- School details
- Occupations
- Place names and preferences
- Classroom objects
- Colours and prepositions
- Classroom rules
- Classroom instructions
- Daily routine
- Days of the week
- Weather
- World of work
- Ailments

- Parts of the body
- Adjectives
- Use of tenses
- Pronouns
- Personal numbers
- Recent and future holidays and trips abroad
- Shops, goods, public services
- Past times and equipment associated with them

GCSE French

Students studying French at GCSE will derive enjoyment and benefit from language learning. As a student of GCSE French you will gain linguistic knowledge, understanding and skills which are beneficial in a multilingual, global society.

What will I study?

Context 1: The Individual	You will study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships (families and friends) • The Local Environment • Leisure • Health and Lifestyle
Context 2: Citizenship	You will study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental and Social Issues • Travel and Tourism • Media and Communications • Festivals and Customs
Context 3: Employability	You will study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Life • Part time jobs • Future Plans

Students should be able to communicate effectively, produce creative pieces in speech and writing, and listen and respond to stimulus material on the above themes.

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1: Speaking (One Tier Entry) Preparation: 3-4 hours Speaking Task: 4-6 minutes	30%	Students prepare and complete two tasks under supervision. They will have access to a dictionary and other resource materials for the preparation of these tasks. The Speaking Test is conducted by the class teacher.
Unit 2: Writing (One Tier Entry)	30%	Students prepare and complete two tasks under supervision. They will have access to a dictionary and other resource

Preparation: 5-6 hours Written Task: 1 hour		materials for the preparation of these tasks.
Unit 3: Listening(Two Tier Entry) Foundation: 35 minutes Higher: 45 minutes	20%	Stimulus material in the target language. Responses include gap filling, selection and some questions in English.
Unit 4: Reading (Two Tier Entry) Foundation: 40 minutes Higher: 50 minutes	20%	Stimulus material of varying lengths. Responses include selection, gap filling, short answers in the target language and some answers in English

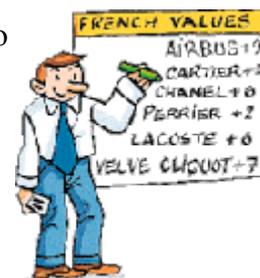
10 REASONS TO LEARN FRENCH AT GCSE



Many people who speak French are considered more intelligent, more chic, more cultured and more sophisticated!! Speaking French shows that you are too!!

1. ECONOMY OF THE FUTURE

In many European countries, a second language is introduced in primary school and a third language, in middle school. International job applicants who can speak at least two languages will be at a distinct advantage in the global market. When you know French, you can be a part of communications and transactions occurring daily in French on every continent.



2. JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Knowledge of a second language is essential in over 60 occupations. French is one of the official languages of the European Union. In your job in the future, you are more likely to travel or live in another country than people are today. Think about the many opportunities with the airlines, import-export companies, and other international businesses. French is also a very useful language if you are thinking of working at the United Nations



(where French is the second most widely used language) or for the Government in the foreign service. You could also become a French teacher, an interpreter or a translator, or many other jobs which require the ability to speak French.

3. OTHER CULTURES

French is the first or second language in more 40 countries and is spoken by 125 million people around the world, on every continent. Because French is a foreign language of choice for so many people in the world, knowing French will also increase your chances of communicating in a non-English-speaking country. You can use French to develop international friendships, as well as to communicate via internet.



4. SPORTS

French is always an official language to announce events, winners, and medals at the Olympic Games. Motor races (Le Mans and Monte Carlo), horse racing (Longchamp), tennis tournaments (French Open), and the Tour de France (long distance bicycle race) engage fans all around the globe.



When you know French, the international world of sports is open to you.

5. IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH...

From 40 to 50% of English vocabulary comes from French. The study of French will also enhance your grammar skills. As you develop greater skills in French, you also sharpen your skills in English.



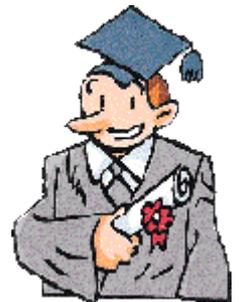
6. CRITICAL AND CREATIVE...

It will also increase your problem-solving skills and improve your memory, self-discipline and self-esteem. Because progress is very easy to measure, you can quickly take pride in your new abilities. Knowing French can help you attain a number of important life skills.



7. CHANCES TO GET A GOOD DEGREE

Students wishing to apply to Irish Universities need a GCSE in a language at grade C or above as part of the entrance criteria. A failure to have a qualification in a language at this level may mean that you do not get to study the course, or attend the university, of your choice!



8. TRAVEL

France is the most visited destination in the world with 80 million tourists in last year. Paris has been named as one of the top ten "global cities". When you speak French, you can be an educated tourist, ask for directions, get your own hotel room or tell a French friend about your own country.



9. OPENING THE DOORS TO ART, MUSIC, FASHION, CINEMA...



As you quickly realise, when you look at the foreign film section of your local video store, France is one of the greatest producers of international films. The Cannes International Film Festival annually attracts the attention of the world when the best films, directors and actors are named. When you understand French, you don't have to rely on subtitles to enjoy a French film.

10. LITERATURE

People around the world are familiar with "Les Misérables", "The Three Musketeers", "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea" and "The Little Prince". In fact, France has won more Nobel Prizes for literature than any other country. The French are also admired for their great philosophers, such as Descartes and Pascal, Rousseau, Voltaire, Camus, and Sartre. When you read French, you can enjoy these works and authors in the original, and you will also be considered extremely intelligent too!!

