



## GCSE French

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### Why study GCSE French?

The GCSE French course aims to develop students' ability to understand spoken and written language in a range of contexts. It will enable students to communicate in French using a range of vocabulary and develop their understanding of French grammar. Students will improve their key skills, e.g., communication, working with others, problem-solving and improve their own learning and confidence. By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate effectively in a variety of everyday situations required for a visit to a French speaking country. Students will have a sound base for further study, work and leisure.

### What does the course involve?

Assessment is set in the context of these three themes.

- Theme 1: People and lifestyle
- Theme 2: Popular culture
- Theme 3: Communication and the world around us

### How will I be assessed?

This qualification is linear. Linear means that students will sit all their exams at the end of the course. Students are assessed in the four skills: Listening, Speaking, Reading & Writing. These are tiered as Foundation (Grades 1-5) and Higher (Grades 4-9).

Students must take all 4 skills at the same tier (either Foundation OR Higher) and each component is worth 25% of the final GCSE grade.

- **Paper 1 Listening Exam** - 35 minutes (Foundation) or 45 minutes (Higher)
- **Paper 2 Speaking Assessment** - 7-9 minutes (Foundation) or 10-12 minutes (Higher)
- **Paper 3 Reading Exam** - 45 minutes (Foundation) or 60 minutes (Higher)
- **Paper 4 Writing Exam** - 70 minutes (Foundation) or 75 minutes (Higher)

### Students will be assessed in the following ways:

- **Listening:** Understanding and responding to spoken extracts in the form of listening comprehension questions and dictation of short, spoken extracts
- **Speaking:** Students carry out a role-play, a reading aloud task in addition to talking about a photo stimulus and conducting a short general conversation in French
- **Reading:** Understanding and responding to written texts in the form of reading comprehension questions and translating from French into English
- **Writing:** Producing accurate written passages and translating from English into French.

### What are my progression routes?

A foreign language can give you a skill for life which could be relevant in any number of professions. An increasing number of universities are expecting students to have a GCSE in languages to follow degree courses. In order to give you the maximum opportunities post-16 or in employment, you are advised that knowledge of a modern foreign language is very highly regarded.