

French



Exam Board
Edexcel

Syllabus number
9FRO



King's
School

*“Au milieu de l’hiver, j’ai découvert
en moi un invincible été.”*

Albert Camus

Course entry requirements

Grade 6 in French and 6 in English language.

Why should I study French?

French is spoken by 125 million people on every continent and is spoken in more than 40 countries. Because French is the language of choice in schools across the globe, this A Level will open up additional job opportunities across the channel. Students of French will develop an understanding of the language in a variety of contexts and genres, and learn to communicate confidently, clearly, and effectively. They will also develop an awareness and understanding of the contemporary society, cultural background and heritage of the countries or communities where French is spoken. Foreign languages open up a new world of culture, literature, and history. On a pragmatic note, French opens up lots of different skills in which employers in all walks of life are very interested.

What does the course look like?

The course follows four general topics, but they are wide and open-ended topics which give scope for debate. The topics give students the opportunity to discuss new ideas, discover attitudes from other parts of the world and open their eyes to the wider world.

- Changes in French Society
- Political and Artistic Culture in French Speaking Countries
- Immigration and French Society
- Occupation and The Resistance
- Literature and Film

There is an independent research project as well as an essay-based exam on the literature, film and themes studied. This incorporates listening and reading as well as translation. There is an extended oral exam at the end of the course, too.

How will I learn?

The course features a wide range of teaching and learning approaches and methods, interactive classroom study, group tasks, private study and research and one-to-one discussions with a native speaker. There will also be opportunities for foreign travel and immersion in French culture. The course will cover a set text, for example 'L'Étranger' by Albert Camus – the story of one man who has chosen to be a martyr in dying for what he believes in, the truth.

What kind of things might the subject lead me to?

French can lead to many different and varied jobs – it is not all about teaching and translating. An A Level in French shows universities and employers that you are prepared to work hard to learn grammar and vocabulary but that you also have lots of other skills like independent thinking, the ability to argue points and discuss ideas, and that you have the ability to listen and verbalise ideas.