

French

Making the Grade. Learn the pathway to academic success.

Subject Teachers: Madame Meyer Pirone, Madame Thathapudi

Curriculum Area: MFL

Key Dates:

Our students will sit regular assessments in all 4 skills- listening, reading, speaking and writing.

These will be in the GCSE format to ensure that our students become well familiarised with the structure of the exam.

As per the exam, our students will sit the following at 3 separate points of the year;

Listening:	(25%) 45 mins (h)	35 mins (f)
Reading:	(25%) 60 mins (h)	45 mins (f)
Speaking:	(25%) 10-12 mins (h)	7-9 mins (f)
Writing:	(25%) 75 mins (h)	60 mins (f)

- End of unit assessment
- Grade descriptors to track progress
- Afterschool revision sessions offered TBC.

Overview of Year 9:

- The French GCSE course is divided into 3 themes and is part of a 3-year GCSE course.
- This course is tiered at both foundation level, grades 1-5 and higher level, grades 4-9.
- The 3 themes are broken down into 12 units across the course. The themes include;
 - * 1 Identity and Culture,
 - * 2 Local, National, International and global areas of interest
 - * 3 Current and future study and employment
- During the first year of the GCSE course, we complete Theme 1 with time to revise key concepts at the end of the year. Year 1 will include the first four units of the course and allow students to develop their skills in discussing the topics of family, technology, free time and customs and festivals.
- We will regularly practise all four skills according to the topic content and these will be tiered at both higher and foundation level. We will also refresh learning from previous units to ensure that our linguists are able to recycle grammatical structures and high-level language in an array of settings.

How can families contribute to success on this course?

- To develop his/her long-term memory, your son/daughter will be given a set of vocabulary to learn weekly. These contain key structures and words relevant to the current topic. As per the demands of the course, MFL students must demonstrate a wide array of vocabulary in their writing and speaking skills, so it is incredibly important for them to be learning vocabulary each week to develop their knowledge of the language.
- Students are given a knowledge organiser (which is a complete revision pack) for each unit across the course. These contain grammar explanations and summary sheets, listening transcripts, writing frames and suggested answers, as well as complex structures and high level phrases for them to implement in their work. Please encourage your son/daughter to revise vocabulary from the packs and complete the grammar

sheets that are set for homework. They should also refer to the writing frames to help them produce their speaking and writing answers.

- Answers for the general conversation will be completed at the end of each unit and revisited regularly across the course. Please encourage your son/daughter to practise their answers with you at home. It is important for them to develop their confidence with speaking and to become familiar with their accents!
- Your son/daughter has access to Kerboodle, where they will be able to access the textbook digitally,
- Your son/daughter will be able to listen to vocabulary at the end of each chapter on Kerboodle. If your child struggles with their pronunciation, this is a valuable tool to help them.
- At the end of each unit, please ensure that your son/daughter is storing their written answers safely as we will be reusing and revisiting these themes across the course.

Resources for success:

- **AQA approved Vocabulary booklets** to help with written accuracy and to learn vocabulary
- **Kerboodle** for access to the digital textbook at home
- **A Collins bilingual dictionary**
- **Netflix**- there are many French series in the international section
- **Duolingo** for additional and engaging practice

Specification Information:

- AQA
- French GCSE Higher/ Foundation
- Course Code- 8658