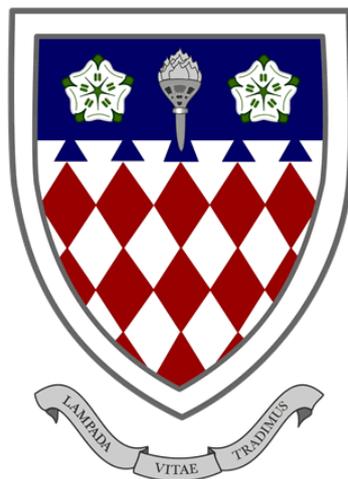


Spalding High School Sixth Form

A Level French



Why Choose A Level French?

If you enjoy studying French at GCSE and you are on target to achieve a 6 or above, then look no further. French is spoken officially in 33 countries. That is, there are 33 countries in which French is either the official language, or one of the official languages. French is one of the two languages spoken as a native language on five continents and one of the two languages taught in every country in the world. French is considered an international language not only because it is spoken in dozens of countries, but also because it is one of the official working languages in many important international organisations.

Choosing A Level French is a really smart move if you want a fascinating subject that offers you a range of career possibilities at the end and is a lot of fun along the way. An A Level in French is interesting and gives you a broad range of knowledge and transferable skills.

An obvious reason to learn French is to be able to communicate with the people who speak it. This includes both the people you meet when travelling as well as people in your own community.

Speaking French helps you to get to know another people and culture, as language and culture go hand in hand. Language simultaneously defines and is defined by the world around us, learning another language opens one's mind to new ideas and new ways of looking at the world.

In addition, when you speak French, you can enjoy literature, film, and music in the original language. It is extremely difficult for a translation to be a perfect replica of the original; the best way to understand what the author really meant is to read what the author actually wrote.

What career paths might I follow with A Level French?

Speaking more than one language is a skill which will increase your marketability.

Universities and employers tend to prefer candidates who speak one or more foreign languages. When dealing with France, for example, someone who speaks French will have an obvious advantage over someone who does not.

A French A level will actually provide you with a fantastic platform from which to enter a range of challenging sectors such as Advertising, Marketing & PR, Banking, Finance & Accountancy, Charity, Not-for-profit & NGO, Culture, Music & Performing Arts, Energy & Utilities, Hospitality & Tourism, Law, Management Consulting & Business, Media, Public Sector & Defence, Recruitment & Human Resources, Retail & Sales, Sport & Recreation, Teaching & Education or even Transport & Logistics.

What is the content of the course and how is it assessed?

Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends

- The changing nature of family
- The 'cyber-society'
- The place of voluntary work.

Artistic culture in the French-speaking world

- A culture proud of its heritage
- Contemporary francophone music
- Cinema: the 7th art form.

Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues

- Positive features of a diverse society
- Life for the marginalised
- How criminals are treated.

Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world

- Teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment
- Demonstrations, strikes – who holds the power?
- Politics and immigration.

A Level students will study the grammatical system and structure of the language. The end of course exams will test their use of accurate grammar and structures appropriate to the tasks set, drawing from the lists in the specification. Students study two books or one book and one film from the lists in the specification. Individual research topic: students conduct individual research on a subject of personal interest, relating to the country or countries where the language.

Paper 1 Listening, Reading and Writing

Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes.

Paper 2 Writing

Two books from the list of set texts in the specification or one book from the list of set texts and one film from the list in the specification.

Written exam: 2 hours.

Paper 3 Speaking (individual research project)

Speaking test: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes' preparation time at the start of the test). Discussion of a sub-theme (5–6 minutes, 25 marks) with the discussion based on a stimulus card. The student has a choice of two cards and studies the chosen card for 5 minutes before the test begins. Presentation (2 minutes, 10 marks) followed by discussion of individual research project (9–10 minutes, 25 marks).

What do our students say about A Level French?

'Learning a language is great as it allows you to be less restricted in terms of the people you speak to and the places you visit. Being able to speak French makes you a more interesting character, and opens up so many opportunities, whether it be the books you are able to read or the jobs you can be employed for. Overall French just adds some fun to my school timetable'

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Specification

Exam Board— AQA

www.aqa.org.uk

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in French

For further details please contact

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