

QUEEN'S GATE SCHOOL
FRENCH
A-LEVEL GUIDE



THINKING OF STUDYING FRENCH AT A-LEVEL?

The course is divided into focused learning areas to ensure you are given the opportunity to cover all aspects of the French A Level curriculum. These areas include: translation skills, reading and listening comprehensions, essay writing and grammar, summary writing and speaking. We use a wide range of learning and teaching techniques and exciting and stimulating challenges and activities to motivate you to deepen your learning and to promote your independent thinking skills.

During the second year of the A Level course you also take on an independent research project. You will do research on a topic of interest for you that is related to the French-speaking world. It will be part of your final speaking examination. You will learn to write essays in French: both on our set film and on our set book.

COURSE TOPICS

Year 1 Topics		
Current trends in French-speaking society • La famille • La "cyber-société" • Le bénévolat	Artistic culture in the French-speaking world • Le patrimoine • La musique • Le cinéma	Film: Entre les murs (by Laurent Cantet)
Year 2 Topics		
Current issues in French-speaking society. • Une société diverse • Les marginalisés • Le traitement des criminels	Political life in the French-speaking world • L'engagement politique des jeunes • Manifestations et grèves • La politique et l'immigration	Text: No et moi (by Delphine de Vignan) OR Un secret (by Philippe Grimbert)

COURSE CURRICULUM

We teach the AQA specification. Exams are taken at the end of UVI. Details of the exams are shown below:	Exam	% Grade
PAPER 1 – Listening, reading and writing	2 hours and 30 minutes	50%
Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends Artistic culture in the French-speaking world Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world Grammar		
PAPER 2 - Writing	2 hours	20%
One text and one film Grammar		
PAPER 3 - Speaking	21-23 minutes (including 5 minutes of preparation time)	30%
Individual research project A sub-theme from one of the four themes		

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course requirements: Students must achieve at least a 7 at French iGCSE to continue at A Level. You need a love of French and a desire for challenge. You need to be motivated and willing to work hard. You also need to have the aptitude to work independently. This means, for example, the ability to review vocabulary and grammar on your own after each lesson. You need to be passionate about French culture and society.

In UVI you will be expected to watch the French TV news on a weekly basis in addition to your homework.

PATHWAYS

Pathways – Career and /or further study possibilities:

The course is suitable for all students interested in languages, especially those wishing to study foreign languages to degree level, or those who wish to follow higher education courses such as: Business; International Business; Marketing; Economics; Travel & Tourism and Law.

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