

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: FRENCH

- **Why study French?** French is a truly global language, spoken by some 280 million people world-wide. Learning French will take you far beyond France to the countries of northern Africa, the Canadian province of Quebec and certain islands of the Caribbean!
- **Do I need to have studied French previously?** Having any prior learning of French is not necessary, our syllabus is designed to cater for everyone from native speakers to beginners! If a different language is spoken at primary school or home, this will complement your communication skills in any new language, including French.
- **What are the main topics you cover in French?** The main topics we cover in French in KS3 are ourselves, our families, our homes and everyday life, school life, and what we enjoy doing in our free time. Later, at GCSE, we cover also future work and aspirations, environmental issues and how to make a contribution to our community. Students will be expected to practise Listening, Speaking, Reading & Writing skills as well increasing their cultural knowledge of the French-speaking world.
- **When do we sit the exams for French?** Students begin the GCSE curriculum at the start of Year 9 and are entered to sit GCSE examinations in ALL Modern Foreign Languages at the end of Year 10 (usually in May/early June).
- **Which exam board do you follow for French?** We follow the AQA syllabus for GCSE French. You can find out more via their website at: [www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/french-8658](http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/french-8658)
- **How do we support less able students to make good progress in French?** We offer weekly lunchtime clubs to develop listening and reading skills. In KS4 we offer a range of tailored interventions and extra sessions to those students preparing for GCSE exams.
- **What do our students do after studying French?** Students completing a GCSE French may choose to study an A-Level course in French, or even carry this through to degree level. As a truly international language, students can utilize French in business, finance, and diplomacy as well as humanitarian roles. Graduates with a high level of competency in one or more languages are coveted by employers and have a clear advantage in securing positions in industry and a range of sectors globally.