



Kimberley  
School

Modern Foreign Languages

# Sixth Form

**AS/A2 Level**

**2017-2019**

**French**

## French Language - FACTS

**French** is a **Romance language** originally spoken in **France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Switzerland**, and today by about 300 million people around the world as either a **native** or a **second language**, with significant populations in 54 countries. It is an **official language** in **29 countries**, most of which form what is called in French **La Francophonie**, the community of French-speaking nations.

### Who is it for?

- For students who have an interest in learning French and who want to have an insight into another culture and society.
- For students who would like to enhance employment prospects and facilitate foreign travel.

All these students are required to have achieved in their GCSE a B/A/A\* grade

- \* Students who have achieved a C grade are welcome to study at an AS level and beyond but extra study will be required.

### What will I study?

#### **AS and A-level**

##### **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

#### **A-level only**

##### **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

## Grammar

As and A-level students will study the grammatical system and structure of the language. The end of the course exams will test their use of accurate grammar and structures appropriate to the tasks set, drawing from the lists in the specification.

## Optional Content

**AS:** Students study one book **or** one film.

**A-Level:** Students study two books **or** one book and one film.

**Individual research topic – A-level only:** Students conduct individual research on a subject of personal interest, relating to the country or countries where French is spoken.

## AS Assessments

**Paper 1** – written exam (1 hour 45 minutes), 80 marks; 40% of AS

- Listening and responding to spoken passages from a range of contexts and sources, covering different registers (35 marks)
- Reading and responding to a variety of texts written for different purposes, drawn from a range of authentic sources (35 marks)
- Translation into English (10 marks)

**Paper 2** – written paper (1 hour 15 minutes), 60 marks; 30% of AS

- Translation into French (15 marks)
  - Answer one question (from a choice of two) on a book or film studied (45 marks)
- Questions are set and answered in French. They require a critical response to aspects such as plot, characterisation, imagery or other stylistic features, as appropriate to the work

**Non-exam assessment:** Speaking (12-14 minutes, plus 15 minutes' preparation time before the test begins), 60 marks; 30% of AS

- Discussion of two sub-themes based on a stimulus card (6-7 minutes each), from a choice of two cards for each sub-theme, the chosen cards are studied for 15 minutes before the test begins

## A-Level Assessments

**Paper 1** – written exam (2 hour 30 minutes), 160 marks; 40% of A-level

- Listening and responding to spoken passages from a range of contexts and sources, covering different registers (60 marks)
- Reading and responding to a variety of texts written for different purposes, drawn from a range of authentic sources (60 marks)
- Translation into English (20 marks)
- Translation into French (20 marks)

**Paper 2** – written exam (2 hours), 90 marks; 30% of A-level

- **Either** one question on a book with a choice of two questions and one question on a film with a choice of two questions **or** two questions on books with a choice of two questions for each book

Section A – books

Section B – films

Students must answer either two questions from Section A or one question from Section A and one from Section B

Questions are set and answered in French. They require a critical appreciation of the concepts and issues covered in the work studied and a critical and analytical response to features, such as the form and the technique of presentation, as appropriate to the work studied (eg the effect of narrative voice in prose text or camera work in film)

**Non-exam assessment:** Speaking (21-23 minutes, including 5 minutes' preparation time at the start of the test), 60 marks; 30% of AS

- Discussion of a sub-theme based on a stimulus card (5-6 minutes), from a choice of two cards, studied for 5 minutes before the test begins (25 marks)
- Presentation (2 minutes) (10 marks) followed by discussion of individual research project (9-10 minutes) (25 marks)

**See Mrs Tenreiro or Mrs Panczuk for further details.**