

Heathcote School and Science College



A Level French Transition Guide 2018-2019



FRENCH A level

What is A Level French?

The course is taught over two years. It is a linear exam and you will be examined in June of the second year in THREE papers:

What is studied at A Level?

A level is divided into four skills (Listening and Reading are in the same paper):

Paper 1: 40% of qualification-80 marks; Listening, Reading and translation

Paper 2:30% of qualification-120 marks; Written response to works and translations

Paper 3: 30% of qualification- 72 marks; Speaking

The programme of study includes the following topics:

The changes of the French society (Social issues and trends)

- The political culture (through Media) and artistic culture (Festival, Music, Traditions) of the French speaking world.
- Immigration and the French multi society
- The Occupation and la Résistance

There will also be some literary texts and movies that we will explore- a list of which can be found in the Edexcel specification that we we are using.

We subscribe to Kerboodle (Nelson Thornes) online learning resources (which includes a variety of interactive activities and tests, study skill tips, video stimulus, an audio roleplay tool and research support) that work alongside our textbook. Students may work online during lessons in an ICT suite or independently outside lesson time. There is great emphasis placed on the teaching and learning of grammatical aspects of the language. This gives you the opportunity to reach a higher level of fluency

During the first year of the course, you should supplement your time in school with approximately 6 hours of private study. You will be given work weekly and your performance will be monitored.

You will be encouraged to visit France and/or other French-speaking countries in order to gain a more personal understanding of the culture and to practise the language in a natural environment. We will also organise a school trip to France that year to allow you to embrace the cultural aspect of the course as well as the linguistic side of it.

How will I increase my knowledge of French?

***Read newspapers** – go on-line and read the front pages of the Nationals:

www.lefigaro.fr

www.lemonde.fr

***Listen to the radio:** **Nrj.fr** or **Fun radio** are available on the internet, you can listen to it whilst you work.

* **Practise speaking French** whenever possible.

***Watch French movies** over the holidays and during the school year.

*Write up class notes, whilst the lesson is still clear in your mind.

*Write down all new vocabulary and phrases in your vocab book.

*Learn new vocabulary regularly.

*Practise speaking French whenever possible in between lessons.

*Borrow French language books.

What do I need to do before September?

- *'Refresh'* your French before coming back. Go to language websites on the internet to revise all the grammar and language covered at GCSE.
- As mentioned before, watch French movies over the summer holidays

There are many on line activities to choose from, many with corrections so you can judge how well you are doing. The following are some suggestions:

Get the [Duolingo App](#) for French and practice every day

www.memrise.com

www.samlearning.com