



Holy Trinity School

A Church of England Secondary School



French A-Level Curriculum Guide

This course is an A Level Course.



MINIMUM SUBJECT ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (in addition to the general 6TH form minimum entry requirements of 5 x grade 4 at GCSE/equivalent or above including Maths and English):

GCSE grade 5 in French, plus Grade 5 in English Language.

The course is built around four core themes focusing on French-speaking society, culture, and politics:

- **Social trends and culture:** Changing family structures, cyberspace, the role of volunteering, music, cinema, and cultural heritage.
- **Political and artistic life:** Contemporary French music, media, festivals, teens, the right to vote, political engagement, and immigration.
- **Literary texts and films:** In-depth critical study of one film and one book (or two books) from the official AQA prescribed list.
- **Individual Research Project:** Students independently research a subject related to a French-speaking country or community of their choice for the speaking

Exam Board Information: AQA A Level French

The qualification is linear, with all exams taken at the end of the two-year course:

- **Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing (50% of total A-level)**
 - **Time:** 2 hours and 30 minutes
 - **Format:** Listening and reading comprehensions (with questions answered in French), plus translation tasks both into French and into English.
- **Paper 2: Writing (20% of total A-level)**
 - **Time:** 2 hours
 - **Format:** Two essays (approx. 300 words each) based on the literary text and film studied. You must demonstrate critical analysis and understanding of characterisation and plot.
- **Paper 3: Speaking (30% of total A-level)**
 - **Time:** 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes prep time)
 - **Format:** Discussion of a sub-theme stimulus card and a presentation/discussion of your Individual Research Project.

PATHWAYS:



Higher Education Pathways

- **Single Honours:** Pure focus on French language, literature, culture, and linguistics.
- **Joint Honours:** Paired with humanities like History, English, or Philosophy.
- **Professional Combinations:** Combined with technical fields like Law or Business Management.
- **Multi-Language Degrees:** Studying French alongside other modern languages.
- **Year Abroad:** A mandatory feature of most degrees to study or work in a French-speaking country.



Career Sectors

- **Government & Diplomacy:** Policy, intelligence, and civil service roles within organizations like the UN or Foreign Office.
- **Corporate & Legal:** International marketing, global logistics, and bilingual corporate law.
- **Media & Tourism:** International journalism, translation, public relations, and travel management.
- **Education:** Secondary school teaching (GCSE/A-Level) and academic research.



Alternative Pathways

- **Apprenticeships:** Earn-while-you-learn schemes in international trade and business coordination.
- **Gap Years:** Practical international work, teaching English abroad, or overseas volunteering.

For further information or to ask questions, please contact subject lead : smerry@holytrinitycrawley.org.uk