



St George's School
Aim Higher

Sixth Form Options

French

A Level Course – AQA

French A level at St George's

Why study a language at A level?



- ❖ You will develop enables key life skills such as the ability to communicate effectively, work well in a team, express and justify opinions and have an understanding and appreciation of other cultures.
- ❖ These are practical and valuable transferable skills which are highly regarded by universities and future employers.





French A level at St George's

Why study a language at A level?

- ❖ Languages are a facilitating subject in university applications - looked on favourably by admissions tutors for a wide range of courses.
- ❖ It is a change from 2 other perhaps similar subjects in your day.
- ❖ You already know the vast majority of the grammar and tenses required to do well at A-Level.
- ❖ Interesting topic areas as well as a book and a film

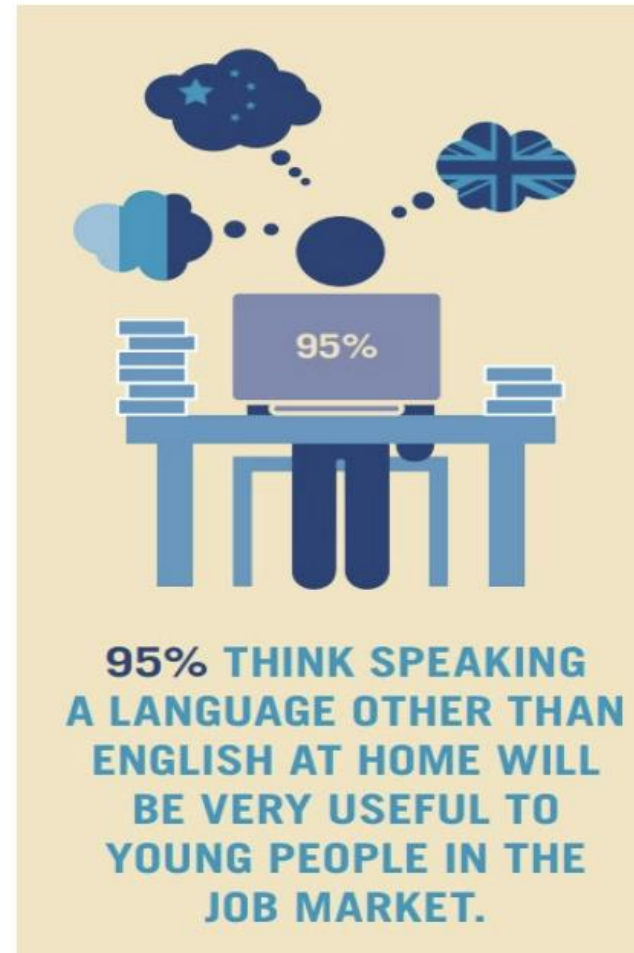
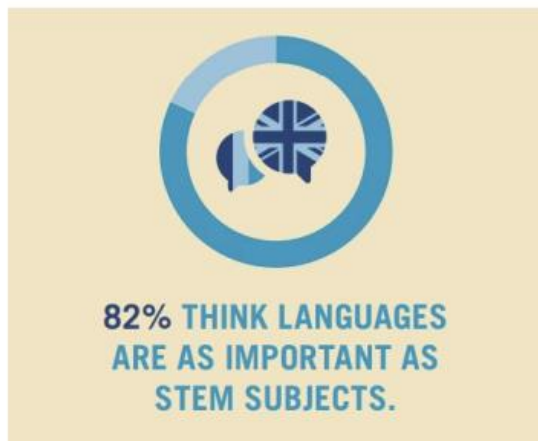
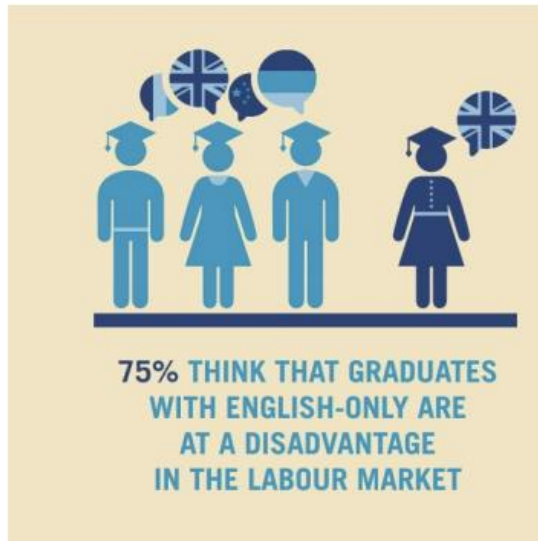


French A level at St George's

Why study a language at A level?



❖ Don't iust take our word for it...



Source:
The British Academy
Born Global Project

French A level at St George's

Why study a language at A level?



❖ Don't just take our word for it... What do employers think?

It is not just the languages themselves but understanding the culture of another country that is equally vital in achieving success at work.

Freelance HR Consultant

...gives a person a wider/more global view and flexibility in dealing with people.

Senior Manager, Ernst Young

It always brings a competitive edge, helps with idea association and analytical thinking and overall allows for a greater level of culture.

Senior Manager, Bank of America



Source:

The British Academy

Born Global Project

French A level at St George's

What is the course content?



Year 12

Theme 1: Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends

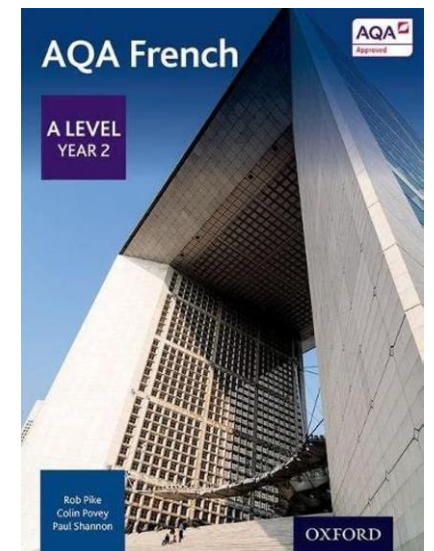
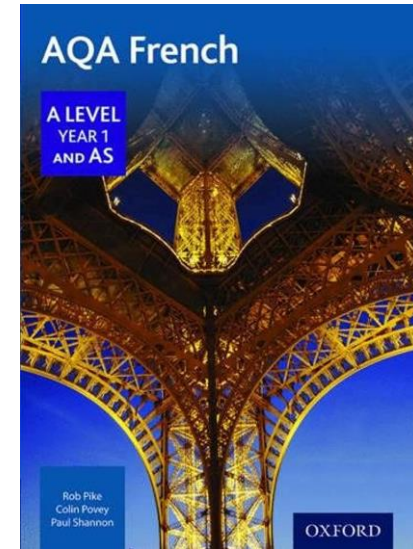
Theme 2: Artistic culture in the French-speaking world

Year 13

Theme 3: Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends

Theme 4: Aspects of political life in the French speaking world

Students have access to an e-textbook and other resources via *Kerboodle*. They will be set assignments (including listening assessments) using this resource.



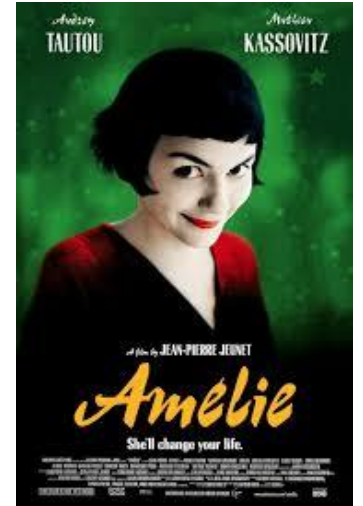
French A level at St George's

What is the course content?



An Individual Research Project (IRP)

- ❖ Students choose a topic area which interests them towards the end of year 12.
- ❖ They choose their topic from a wide variety of options, based on their interests but closely related to French or Francophone culture
- ❖ Famous actor, singer or sports person and their career / geographical region / historical period or event / a film and the life of the director / architect / a painter and/or an artistic movement / a political movement
- ❖ The project topic is discussed in detail as part of the speaking exam.



French A level at St George's

What is the course content?



- ❖ An in-depth study of a literary work and a film

Currently:

Kiffe kiffe demain by Faïza Guène

Les quatre cents coups by François Truffaut





French A level at St George's

How is the A level assessed?

50%: Paper 1 - Listening, Reading & Writing (includes translation)

- ❑ Assesses comprehension of extracts on the 4 themes taught across 2 years as well as grammatical understanding and ability to manipulate language.

20%: Paper 2 - Writing

- ❑ 2 essays. 1 on the literary work and 1 on the film studied (in French and approx. 300 words each).

30%: Exam 3 - Speaking

- ❑ Stimulus card topical discussion on one of the sub-themes of the course.
- ❑ Short presentation on individual research project with follow-up discussion.

French A level at St George's

What will you be doing in and out of lessons?



- Weekly speaking lesson with Language Assistant
- Independent listening & reading of International news, radio / television & interviews
- Watching films with follow-up discussion & essay writing
- Reading literature with plot & character analysis
- Discussions / Pair work / Group work in class & presentations
- Consolidating knowledge of grammar & advancing it further
- Internet research of current issues impacting society
- Vocabulary Building
- Summarising & translating audio texts / articles

French A level at St George's

What other subjects does French combine well with?



A language combines well with almost any other subject at A-level and open up many different opportunities post-18. For example:

- ★ **Maths / economics** for students considering a future in international banking or finance
- ★ **English / drama** for students who are particularly interested in literature and exploring nuance and manipulation of language
- ★ **Music / art** for students interested in exploring the artistic heritage and culture of France and perhaps wanting to go on and study liberal arts.
- ★ **Politics / history** for students considering a future in government, law or the diplomatic service
- ★ **Business studies / economics** for ANYONE hoping for an international career in commerce
- ★ **Sciences** for students considering a future using science in international context such as working for multinational pharmaceutical or aerospace companies or even looking to take a degree in medicine.
- ★ **Geography** for students interested in studying trends in society and perhaps considering a career in international development or tourism.

French A level at St George's

What are the entry requirements?



A minimum of 5 full GCSEs or equivalent at grades 9-5, with a grade 6 or above in French.

French A level at St George's Co-curricular opportunities



- ❖ In Year 13, students take part in a KS5 French film study day at the British Film Institute in London
- ❖ The programme for the day includes a lecture in French on the development of *La Nouvelle Vague* cinematic techniques which we study as part of the course and a screening of *La Haine* the iconic 1995 film by Mathieu Kassowitz



French A level at St George's

What do our current students say?



“Studying this course has really enabled me to develop my confidence at speaking French. The learning curve is big in the first term, but the improvement has been huge!”

“The course is much more interesting than the GCSE because we learn about issues in French speaking countries. It is very current and topical.”

“I am really loving learning about French culture, literature and films, it has also helped with some of my history and politics A-Level too.”