

# French

## Exam Board: WJEC

**Why study French?** The importance of being able to communicate in a foreign language is very highly prized by employers. Language learning in Higher Education has also never been more vital for the economy of this country and people with language qualifications have seldom been more in demand. Solid language skills are crucial for business in a global mobile economy. Language graduates have one of the highest employment rates of any subject. Some universities now require a Language at AS level for non-language based courses such as Law and Medicine.

The European jobs market is at present dominated by young French, German and other foreign nationals who can already speak two or even three languages. As close collaboration with our European allies becomes more and more essential, it is vital for the future of this country that our young people continue their study of foreign languages so that we can not only trade effectively with countries abroad but also understand their culture and their outlook.

### Minimum Entry Requirements

- A minimum of 6 A\* to C grades at GCSE with a **B** grade in French. If you have any queries, please contact Miss B Dinnick (Head of Department).

### The AS Course.

- There is an intense grammar course studied at the start of Year 12.
- There are 2 topic areas:
  - 1. Being a young person in French-speaking society which includes:**
    - Family structures, traditional and modern values, friendships / relationships, Youth trends, issues and personal identity, Educational and employment opportunities
  - 2. Understanding the French-speaking world which includes:**
    - Regional culture and heritage in France, French-speaking countries and communities, Literature, art, film and music in the French-speaking world
- There is also the study of one French film (Le Havre)

### Assessment

#### Unit 1: Oral: 12-15 minutes (48 marks 12% of total A level)

Discussions based on stimulus cards

#### Unit 2: Listening, reading, writing and translation: 2 hours 30 minutes (84 marks 28% of total A level)

**Section A:** Listening

**Section B:** Reading

**Section C:** Translation – from French into English

**Section D:** One essay on the film you have studied (Le Havre)

### The A2 Course

- There are 2 topic areas:
  - 1. Diversity and difference which includes:**
    - Migration and integration, Cultural identity and marginalisation, Cultural enrichment and celebrating difference, Discrimination and diversity
  - 2. France 1940-1950: The Occupation and the post-war years which includes:**
    - From June 1940-May 1945 (occupation, liberation and end of World War II), Life in Occupied France and the cultural dimension (théâtre, cinéma, littérature), 1945-1950: rebuilding and restructuring, Repercussions for modern day France
- There is also the study of one literary text (Le Bal)

### Assessment

#### Unit 3: Speaking: 11-12 minutes (72 marks 18% of total A level)

Presentation and discussion of an independent research project

#### Unit 4: Listening, reading and translation: 120 minutes (100 marks 30% of total A level)

**Section A:** Listening

**Section B:** Reading

**Section C:** Translation – from English into French

#### Unit 5: Unit 5: Critical and analytical response in writing 90 minutes (40 marks 12% of total A level)

One essay question on the study of one literary work (Le Bal)