



French

French at CCHS is a lively, active subject in which students are encouraged to be creative in their use of the language and to develop an appreciation of the culture of France and French speaking countries as well as of the language structure. We also aim to provide students with the tools to expand their skills, applying their understanding to the learning of additional languages.

French is studied by all students from Year 7 to Year 9. In Year 9 students have the option of continuing to GCSE in either French or German as their core language. Students are encouraged to take more than one language. A large number choose to continue with at least two languages to GCSE.

French is a very popular option at advanced level and can be studied at Standard or Higher level in the IB or at AS and/or A2 level.

At GCSE, around 80% of students achieve an A or A* grade in French and at AS and A2 level the achievement of A or B grades is between 70% and 85%. At IB most students generally gain level 5 or 6. Lessons in all years are intense and focussed, with a concentration on active learning techniques, higher order thinking skills and delivery of core grammatical concepts and structures through the various topic areas.

The department has an excellent track record of success and is willing to work hard to make the “best better”. Relationships between staff and students are of the highest quality and are demonstrated by the time devoted to the students outside of lessons when they need help. We offer a mentoring system in Year 12 and Year 13, supporting students in the preparation of their research for their oral topics. We have a rigorous system of tracking in all years, by which we can monitor individual progress against external and internal data and offer support as needed.

Course Overviews

KS3

In years 7 – 9 students progress through the topic areas, gradually expanding the range of vocabulary and structures with which they are able to express themselves. By the end of year 9, most students will have reached at least a grade C level at GCSE.

GCSE (OCR)

The examination consists of:

- 2 comprehension papers in listening and reading, (each is 20% of the total mark).
- The oral (30% of the total) is teacher assessed.
- The written tasks are also 30% of the total. Two tasks completed during year 11 are submitted.



AS (OCR)

- Oral test
- Listening, Reading and Writing paper

A2 (OCR)

- Oral test (18 minutes)
- Reading, Listening and Writing paper, which includes an essay

Extra-Curricular Activities

We currently offer a three day visit for Year 7 to Normandy as a cross curricular project with the History and Art departments and our French exchange is very successful and is offered to students in Years 9-12. We also encourage our Year 12 students to participate in a work experience programme in France.

Various activities are organised throughout the year, including Junior and Senior film club, Senior news club and French literature group. There are also clinics and support sessions offered by staff as appropriate.