

KEY STAGE 4

Course information:

Year 10 (New specification from 2024):

In Year 10 students practise and improve their French skills through interacting with and producing language around interesting and engaging themes such as media and technology, my personal world, lifestyle and wellbeing, studying and the future & travel and tourism. These themes have been specifically chosen as they are familiar and engaging for young people.

Year 11 (2024-25 is the final year of the outgoing specification):

In Year 11 students cover the contexts of school, future plans and ambitions for their futures regarding post-16 education and work. Students compare differences between life in schools in France and in the UK and discuss positives and negatives of both of the systems.

Students also have ample opportunity to hone their exam craft to ensure that they can succeed in their exams. Feedback is given in a timely manner within lessons so that students know what they need to do in order to make further and regular progress.

Year 11 (2025-2026 onwards):

In Year 11 students will cover the contexts of my neighbourhood & travel and tourism. There is also ample time to revise and hone our knowledge and skills of previously covered areas in order to ensure that students are confident and ready for their exams and can fully practise and improve all four key skill areas.

Exam board: AQA (Year 11 2024-25)

Paper 1 – Listening examination: 35 mins (Foundation) / 45 mins (Higher)

Paper 2 – Speaking examination: approx. 7-12 mins (+12 mins preparation time).

Paper 3 – Reading examination: 45 mins (Foundation) / 60 mins (Higher).

Paper 4 – Written examination: 60 mins (Foundation) / 75 mins (Higher)

The exams will measure how students have achieved the following assessment objectives:

- AO1: Listening – understand and respond to different types of spoken language.
- AO2: Speaking – communicate and interact effectively in speech.
- AO3: Reading – understand and respond to different types of written language.
- AO4: Writing – communicate in writing.

Exam board: Pearson (Y10 2024-25, Y11 2025-26 onwards)

Paper 1 – Speaking examination: 7-12 minutes (+15 mins preparation time)

Paper 2 – Listening & Understanding: 45 mins (Foundation) / 60 mins (Higher)

Paper 3 – Reading & Understanding: 45 mins (Foundation) / 60 mins (Higher)

Paper 4 – Writing: 75 mins (Foundation) / 80 mins (Higher)

The exams will measure how students have achieved the following assessment objectives:

- AO1 - Understand and respond to spoken language in speaking and in writing 35%
- AO2 - Understand and respond to written language in speaking and in writing 45%
- AO3 - Demonstrate knowledge and accurate application of the grammar and vocabulary prescribed in the specification 20%

Homework:

Homework will be set weekly. Homework is typically in the form of vocabulary learning, with students tested on this in lessons afterwards. Students are also set independent reading and listening practice activities to hone their receptive language skills. Completion of all homework is highly important in order for students to embed key vocabulary and structures.

Assessment:

Lessons include knowledge retrieval questions to assess prior learning. Lessons involve the active use of mini whiteboards to check for understanding and to provide real time feedback and to deal with misconceptions quickly. Students will complete regular exam-style questions for all of the four skills during the academic year where they will be given teacher feedback on how to improve. Year 10 students will sit a mock exam in the summer term. Year 11 students will sit two mock exam series (with all four skills being examined each series).

Contacts:

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