

GCSE French

What will I learn?

“If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart.”

–Nelson Mandela

Our course aims to develop communicative language which will be of practical use to students. Students will develop their interpersonal skills and confidence in communicating in French.

Students will study:

Identity and culture

This topic looks at relationships with family and friends, marriage/partnership, social media, mobile technology, music, cinema and TV, food, eating out and sport. It also looks at customs and festivals in French speaking countries.

Local, national, international and global areas of interest

This topic looks at home, town and region, social issues including voluntary work and healthy living, and global issues including the environment and poverty. It also covers travel and tourism.

Current and future study and employment

This topic covers life at school, education post-16 and jobs, career choices and ambitions.

What do I need to know before I can start the course?

You need to have previously studied French, and to be keen to learn more about the French language and culture. It is really important that you are willing to work hard at grammar, as a basis for accurate speaking, writing and translation. You should also be ready to join in speaking French in lessons so that your pronunciation and confidence gradually improve. Good literacy skills will help you to be successful in French.

What does the course involve?

We will develop further the four skills of listening and reading, speaking and writing, through individual and group work including role plays, conversation, video study, authentic reading texts and writing for different purposes. All four skills are examined at the end of the course and have equal weighting.

What can I do after the course? What careers will this course be useful for?

A modern language can be studied to AS and A Level at SEEVIC and most local school sixth forms. Languages are also seen by universities as an ‘enabling’ subject on applications whatever subject students choose to study, and many courses have language options.

Whatever you decide to do after The Deanes, a language GCSE looks good on your CV and gives you a competitive edge in today's employment market. There are some jobs where a language is essential, such as interpreter, journalist or language teacher. However, many companies and organisations are crying out for people who can speak more than one language, to enable them to do business worldwide; for example, in the fields of law, manufacturing, insurance and crime prevention. Language skills increase your global and cultural awareness, help you gain confidence to work and travel internationally, and expand your options for studying, working or travelling abroad.

Who can I talk to for more information?

Please talk to Mrs McMahon.

What websites can I check out?

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/experience/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education>

<http://www.memrise.com/home/>

<http://www.lightbulblanguages.co.uk/resources-french.htm>

<http://www.language-gym.com/>

<http://www.french-games.net/frenchgames>

<http://www.francais-extra.co.uk/>

<http://www.languagesonline.org.uk>