

Modern Foreign Languages – French

**What is being studied this year:**

**Thematic Studies:** The AQA specification covers three distinct themes. These themes apply to all four question papers. Students are expected to understand and provide information and opinions about these themes relating to their own experiences and those of other people, including people in countries/communities where French is spoken.

**Theme 1: Identity and culture – Covered in year 10**

Me, my family and friends – *marriage and relationships*

Technology in everyday life – *social media/mobile technology*

Free-time activities – *music, cinema and TV, food/eating out/ sport*

Customs and festivals

**Theme 3: Current and future: Term 1 and 2 – September – November 2018**

My studies

Life at school/college

Education post-16

Jobs, career choices and ambitions

**Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest: November 2018 – February 2019**

Home, town, neighbourhood and region

Social issues – *charity/voluntary work, healthy and unhealthy living*

Global issues – *the environment, poverty, homelessness*

Travel and tourism

**Exam Board Details:**

Pupils are studying AQA French Specification (9-1 GCSE).

15 April- 17 May 2019 - Modern Foreign Language speaking tests – conducted in school with the class teacher.

Tuesday 14 May 2019 (AM): French Listening and Reading exams

Friday 17 May 2019 (AM): French Writing exam

**What Can You Do To Support Your Child?**

Please ensure your child continues to complete all their class and home work to the very best of their ability, all work completed in class forms the basis of their revision notes.

We will be providing revision sessions for the mock examination, but also for the speaking exam. Please encourage your child to attend these sessions but also undertake revision of their own at home. In French, revision should focus on increasing their vocabulary by using online tools such as quizlet and memrise and creating revision cards. Students should also focus on understanding and confidently using key grammar points and this can be achieved by using their Grammar and Translation workbook independently. Another important aspect of revision for their French exam is practising their reading and listening skills using their Revision guide.

The mock examination will examine 3 skills:

* Listening –35 minutes (Foundation Tier), 45 minutes (Higher Tier) **Friday 16 November 2018**
* Reading –45 minutes (Foundation Tier), 1 hour (Higher Tier) **Friday 16 November 2018**
* Writing – 1 hour (Foundation Tier), 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher Tier) **Thursday 15 November 2018**

From January a regular programme of revision sessions will be provided by the MFL department, until then there will be regular catch up sessions run by teachers after school, on a Thursday. A revision planner will also be provided to guide pupils in weekly revision topics and tasks. Once all units have been completed revision will also take place during timetabled lessons.

## 5 Ways Parents Can Help

1. Memrise: Encourage your son/daughter to go on Memrise.com (vocabulary learning website) regularly. I recommend at least half an hour a week.

2. GCSE Survival Kit: Encourage your son/daughter to work through the Vocabulary provided by their class teacher. When they know a word/phrase off by heart they could highlight it. You could then help by reading out the words and asking them to translate them from memory. Students can also use their **GCSE French AQA Complete Revision & Practice (with CD & Online Edition)** to practice exam style questions.

3. After School Intervention: Encourage your son/daughter to attend the **after-school intervention sessions** with Ms Petre on Thursdays.

4. Tenses Revision: Encourage your son/daughter to revise tenses – using the 15 key verbs hand out - and complete all homework provided in class.

5. Grammar and Translation Booklet: If your son/daughter needs further practice on tenses there are lots of **revision pages**, including exercises in their Grammar and Translation Booklets.