

# GCSE: French

**Subject Leader:** Rebecca Carver

**Exam Board:** Edexcel

## Course Overview:

A Modern Foreign Language GCSE is an essential subject for the English Baccalaureate (EBacc), along with Science, Geography, Mathematics and English Language. The EBacc is favoured for entry in to the top universities (Russell Group) in the UK. The GCSE course will also give you an insight into the subject at Advanced Level.

## Entry Requirements

You will need to have studied French in years 7, 8 and 9.

## What will you study?

You will study the language (vocabulary and grammar) within the context of the following themes:

- Identity and culture
- Local area, holiday and travel
- School
- Future aspirations, study and work
- International and global dimension

## Assessment:

- **Paper 1:** Listening and understanding in French (exam, Foundation 30 minutes, Higher 40 minutes)
- **Paper 2:** Speaking in French (exam, Foundation 7-9 minutes, Higher 10-12: 3 tasks)
- **Paper 3:** Reading and understanding in French (exam, Foundation 45 minutes, Higher 60 minutes)
- **Paper 4:** Writing in French (exam, Foundation 60 minutes, Higher 80 minutes)

## Why study French?

Learning another language opens up new opportunities and gives you perspectives you may not have encountered.

Businesses that intend to compete internationally need employees who can competently communicate in the local language.

Research shows that knowledge of other languages boosts students' understanding of languages in general and enables students to use their native language more effectively. Foreign language learners have stronger vocabulary skills in English, a better understanding of the language and improved literacy in general.

## What course materials will I need?

You will need to bring a dictionary, textbook, pen and paper. Verb tables are also very useful.

## What if I've struggled with Languages in the past?

Due to the small class sizes at Plymouth Studio School, there will be a more personalised learning experience. There are two tiers for GCSE Languages - foundation and higher. We will discuss which tier suits you better.

