

GCSE French: AQA 8652

"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

The Course

Learning French will broaden a student's horizons and encourage them to step beyond familiar cultural boundaries whilst gaining a qualification which is attractive to both further/higher education institutes and within the world of work. Pupils will develop transferable skills such as communication, resilience and critical learning alongside the language itself which will help them within this French GCSE but also other subjects and for life after Erdington Academy.

What will be studied?

Pupils study under three distinct themes as seen in the table below. The content requires the pupils to understand and communicate personal and factual information, developing and justifying points of view. Students will examine authentic and Francophone sources, in turn fostering confidence & autonomy when accessing new and unfamiliar language.

3.1.1 Theme 1: People & Lifestyle

Topic 1: Identity and relationships with others

Topic 2: Healthy living and lifestyle

Topic 3: Education and work

3.1.2 Theme 2: Popular Culture

Topic 1: Free-time activities

Topic 2: Customs, festivals and celebrations

Topic 3: Celebrity culture

3.1.3 Theme 3: Communication and the world around us

Topic 1: Travel and tourism, including places of interest.

Topic 2: Media and technology

Topic 3: The environment and where people live

Why study French?

A language GCSE is a valuable asset on any education and job application due to the 'soft' skills that are organically developed during the learning of a language. Having a GCSE in French will unlock pathways to 30 countries where French is an official language including those in the Caribbean & Africa and it is widely known as the language of culture opening doors to art, music, fashion, dance & cuisine.

Future Pathways

Language skills are in wide demand in a variety of jobs and sectors such as translation and teaching which require daily use, but international organisations regularly advertise for their employees to be multi-lingual and will pay more for these skills.

Assessment

Four examinations worth 25% each at the end of the two years of study: listening, reading, writing & speaking. Pupils will either sit a foundation or higher tier for all the examinations.

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