

# GCSE French



**Why choose GCSE French?** Learning **ANY** language helps you broaden your understanding of people from other cultures, nationalities and walks of life. It is not simply learning the language either. You may learn what music people in the francophone world enjoy, what food they like to eat, what traditions they have, how they celebrate festivals. Not only that, but learning a language increases your brain's capacity and improves your memory. It is a real achievement that will be the envy of your friends and that employers will love. By taking a language at GCSE you'll develop amazing skills and a valuable talent that's applicable to almost everything you do. You must take a language to qualify for the EBacc.

## What will I study?

Identity and Culture - including festivals, celebrations

Local Area, Holiday and Travel

School

Future Aspirations, Study and Work -

International and Global Dimension - including international sporting events, music festivals, environment

## Who would this course suit?

Someone who has an interest in the wider world around them and is interested in discovering more about it. Someone who wants to travel and experience new cultures to develop a deeper understanding of the world and the people who live in it. Someone who has the desire to develop life-long skills that many adults wish they had and that employers value greatly, all whilst engaging in fun activities.... then learning a language is definitely for you!

Languages suit learners of all abilities – **everyone** can achieve!

## How will I learn? What skills will I develop through learning a language?

You will learn in a friendly and supportive environment, through clear explanation, through the use of a wide range of up to date media, by listening to and reading as much French as possible and by being shown how to use the language in your own written and spoken French.

Learning a language is not simply about communicating in a foreign language. You will develop a wide range of skills that are applicable to your own language as well as any future study. These include:

- o communication skills-being able to speak to people from all different walks of life
- o report writing – being concise, working as part of a team
- o mental agility - learning to think on your feet and problem solving
- o presentation skills – improving your self confidence
- o verbal and written accuracy
- o listening skills
- o cultural awareness

### How will my work be assessed?

#### 100% Externally Assessed - No Coursework or Controlled Assessment

**Listening** 25% Foundation/Higher tier: Listen to spoken French and answer questions in English and French.

**Speaking** 25% Foundation/Higher tier: Student speaks in French with their class teacher.

**Reading** 25% Foundation/Higher tier: Read French texts and answer questions in English and French, including a translation passage from French to English.

**Writing** 25% Foundation/Higher tier: Student writes in French. Foundation – Three open response questions and translation of sentences into French. Higher – Two open response questions and one short translation paragraph into French.

Written question responses range from 20-150 words each.

### Themes and Topics?

**Identity and Culture** Who Am I? - including what you think makes a good friend, personal interests, socialising with friends and family, role models.

Customs in French speaking countries and everyday life, food and drink, shopping, music, sport, film and television, The advantages and disadvantages of social media and technology, celebrations and festivals around the Francophone World.

**Local Area, Holiday and Travel** Holidays – including how to book a hotel, order food in a restaurant, get information for tourist attractions, theme parks and book tickets. Ask for help and deal with problems, shopping and bartering in French speaking countries across the world.

**School** What is school like for young people of your age across the French speaking world? Including: school types, school day, subjects, rules and pressures, school trips, events and exchanges.

**Future Aspirations, Study and Work** Using languages beyond the classroom: travel, employment. ambitions – further study, volunteering, training. Work – jobs, careers and professions.

**International and Global Dimension** Bringing the World Together – National and international sports events, music events – including festivals, campaigns, good causes, environmental Issues - make your voice heard.

### How can I use this course after Year 11 in the future?

Being able to communicate in a foreign language is a valuable talent that's applicable to almost everything you do. Languages can be helpful in practically any job, from a personal assistant to an engineer, whether it is based in the UK or abroad - you never know when they may come in handy. Many former pupils who never thought they would need the language skills they acquired at St Thomas More, have been afforded exciting, international opportunities in their careers, where they have used the language they studied at GCSE or applied their linguistic knowledge and skills to learning new languages. These former students have worked in the entertainment and tourism industries including **Disneyland Paris**, in **engineering** for **Citroën, Peugeot, JLR and Audi**, as **teachers of English in Japan Spain and France**, as **beauticians and hairdressers aboard cruise ships**, as **professional dancers across Europe**, as well as more traditional business sector roles! The list of possibilities where you will be able to use your linguistic skills goes on and on! Even if you make mistakes, you can talk to someone in a different language – and that feeling when you are understood and you understand them - that is amazing. There is a fascinating world out there waiting for you!

### If I want to know more I should ask...

Mrs Murphy-Long, [murphy-long.f@st-thomas-more.net](mailto:murphy-long.f@st-thomas-more.net)

Miss Adey, [adey.g@st-thomas-more.net](mailto:adey.g@st-thomas-more.net)

Mrs Griffiths, [griffiths.s@st-thomas-more.net](mailto:griffiths.s@st-thomas-more.net)

Miss Martin, [martin.f@st-thomas-more.net](mailto:martin.f@st-thomas-more.net)