



All students study French and the majority will continue with French at GCSE level in Years 10 and 11. (On-going focus on vocabulary building and listening/reading skills with more practice on the terminal written and spoken exam).

During Year 9, all students cover a shortened version of each of the five new GCSE topics:

- Identity and Culture
- School/Study
- Work/Future aspirations
- Local area/Holidays/Travel
- International/Global dimension

Year 9 students have access to French listening resources via the website which include a variety of practice questions on all relevant topics.

We endeavour to provide as many opportunities as possible for students to learn about the cultural aspects of French life. We aim to make cultural links at appropriate times throughout the course. In fact, we have dedicated one full half term to project based learning where group work skills can be developed and students can focus on a topic of choice.

Assessment of learning is done through regular tests during the year. These cover skills of listening and reading, speaking and writing. Students will have regular vocabulary tests. These will form part of the on-going assessment of student progress and therefore it is essential that time and efforts are invested.

If students have not already purchased a bilingual dictionary it is necessary to do so since, when used properly and with lots of practice, it is an important tool to help improve the quality of work.

Excellent effort in school and at home is crucial in order for students to achieve to their maximum potential.

YEAR 9 FRENCH ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

½ term 1	Mini Vocabulary assessment	Raw score /20
	Identity and Culture Vocabulary/Grammar assessment	Raw score /50
½ term 2	Mini Vocabulary assessment	Raw score /20
	School Vocabulary/Grammar assessment	Raw score /50
½ term 3	Mini Vocabulary assessment	Raw score /20
	Winter Listening assessment	1-9 grade
	Winter Reading assessment	1-9 grade
	Winter mini Writing/translation assessment	1-9 grade
½ term 4	Mini Vocabulary assessment	Raw score /20
	Local area/holidays travel Vocabulary/Grammar assessment	Raw score /50
½ term 5	Mini Vocabulary assessment	Raw score /20
	Summer Listening assessment	1-9 grade
	Summer Reading assessment	1-9 grade
	Summer full Writing/translation assessment	1-9 grade

	Year 9 Speaking assessment	1-9 grade
½ term 6	Mini Vocabulary assessment	Raw score /20
	Project work/peer assessment	

REVISION ADVICE and USEFUL INFORMATION

What **students** should be focusing on:

Listening and reading:

Learning as much topic-related vocabulary as possible. Vocabulary building needs to be done at regular intervals and not just when learning is set for homework for a test. Students are expected to revise lesson content each evening after a Languages lesson has been delivered.

Practise finding and using synonyms.

Use reading and listening materials to practise exam questions. Their language teacher will be happy to help with any difficulties they encounter in completing the questions.

Speaking and Writing:

Ensure all class notes are up to date and thorough to be used to support revision for exams.

Examine the mark scheme so you know what you need to do for the higher grades. Make sure you include a range of tenses.

How **you** can help your child:

Test them at regular intervals. This does not mean that you should be spending hours learning it with them!

Encourage them to use the internet to practise vocabulary/grammar they have learnt:

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/french

www.samlearning.com

www.linguascope.com

www.atantot.co.uk

www.languagesonline.co.uk

Encourage them to use the strategies on how to answer questions they have learnt in class. This will greatly increase their chances of a higher grade.

Encourage them to practise their exam prep and test them as they manage small chunks of it.

Encourage students to visit the VLE to advance listening skills using the practice activities.