



FRENCH

Advanced General Certificate of Education (AS and A2)

WHY FRENCH?

Students who have the ability to offer potential employers the capability to speak a fluent level of French with a high degree of accuracy possess an extremely marketable and sought after skill. With the advent of a European free market in trade, industry and employment, combined with the ongoing development and rapidity of international communications, the relevance and value of the foreign language has never been more obvious. AGCE Courses are now being designed to incorporate a vocational as well as academic dimension, preparing students for exciting career opportunities in a wide range of professions such as:

Tourism	Hospitality & Catering	Commerce
Banking	Business Administration	Teaching

These courses will also serve as excellent preparation for students wishing to proceed to Higher Education.

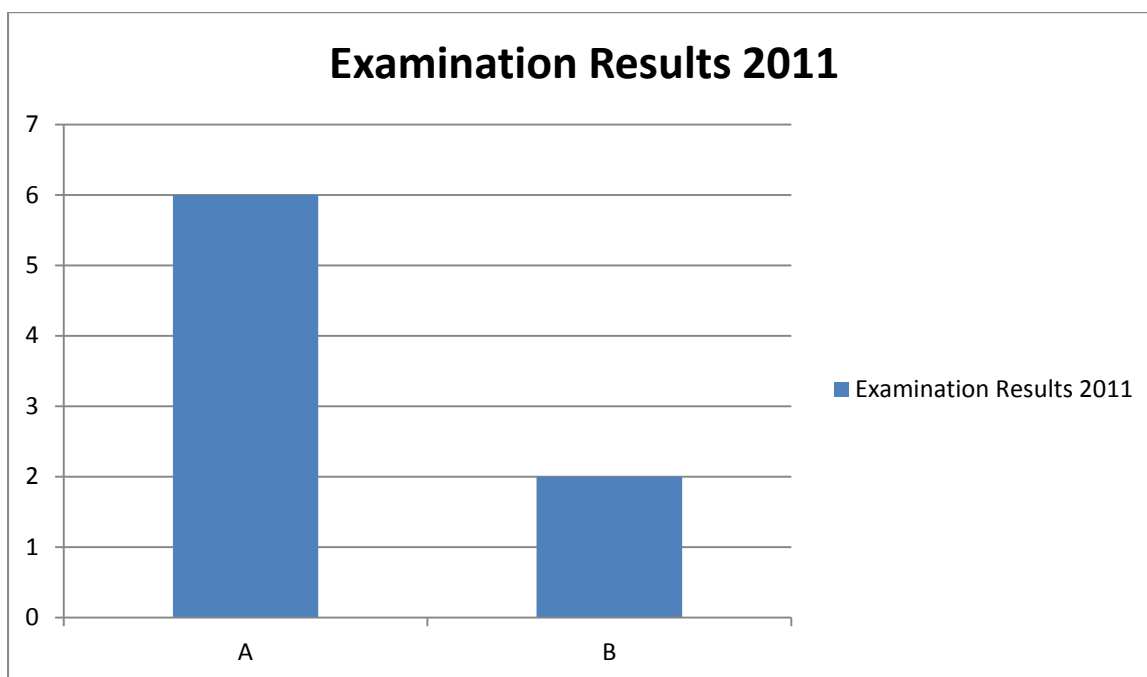
Advanced Level French aims to provide students with a thorough knowledge of the language and to develop, in particular, the skill of speaking with a high degree of fluency. The course will include elements of the following:

Spoken French	Written French	History	Social Culture
Listening Skills	Grammar	Reading Skills	Literature
Interpreting	Translation Skills		

Students on this course are encouraged and expected to spend time in France during their two years of study. They are also encouraged to listen to French radio and read on a regular basis. The library is well equipped with foreign literature and films to cover a variety of interests and abilities. Foreign film visits are also organised by staff when the opportunity arises.

SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- 6 GCSEs (Grades A* - C)
- Grade B in GCSE French (Higher Tier)



AQA Syllabus: 2650 (French)

During this course you will study a combined total of **4 Units** as follows:

AS Unit 1

Listening, Reading and Writing (*Examination Unit Externally Assessed*)

You will be required to complete 3 sections in this exam, incorporating a variety of authentic French material to assess your comprehension.

Listening: You will listen to approximately 5 minutes of material, comprising of a task involving transfer of meaning in to English and 2-4 items requiring short responses in the target language.

Reading: In this section you will need to complete 3-4 tasks, together with a short grammar section.

Writing: You will be expected to answer one question from a choice of three, which will be based around the AS topics that you will have studied. You will be expected to write a minimum of 200 words.

AS Unit 2

Speaking Test (*Examination Unit Externally Assessed*)

Part 1 – Discussion of a stimulus card (5 minutes)

You will have 20 minutes to prepare one card given to you. The cards will be based around the four AS topics of *Media, Popular Culture, Healthy Living/Lifestyle and Family/Relationships*. You will be able to make notes during the preparation time and can refer to your notes during the test. There will be 5 questions on the card which will form the basis of the discussion. You will be expected to speak around each topic area in addition to answering more specific questions.



Part 2 – Conversation (10 minutes)

This conversation will cover three of the four AS topic areas and you will choose the first topic, having decided on this before the exam. You will be expected to discuss this for approximately 3 minutes. You will then discuss a further two topics relating to the AS and discuss them for a further 7 minutes.

A2 Unit 3

Listening Reading and Writing (*Examination Unit Externally Assessed*)

You will be required to complete 3 sections in this exam, incorporating a variety of authentic French material to assess your comprehension.

Listening: You will listen to approximately 6 minutes of material, comprising of 3-5 items requiring short responses in the target language.

Reading: In this section you will need to complete 2-4 tasks, together with a task involving transfer of meaning from French into English and a task involving transfer of meaning from English into French.

Writing: You will be expected to answer one question from a choice of two, which will be based on each of the five A2 Cultural Topic areas that you will have studied. You will be expected to write a minimum of 250 words.

A2 Unit 4

Speaking Test (*Examination Unit Externally Assessed*)

You will have 20 minutes to prepare one card given to you. The cards will be based around the four A2 topics of *Environment, the Multicultural Society* and *Contemporary Social Issues*. You will be able to make notes during the preparation time and can refer to your notes during the test. You will need to firstly present your own point of view and then further debate your argument with the examiner.

Part 2 – Conversation (10 minutes)

This conversation will cover both Cultural Topics studied by you and you will need to spend around 5 minutes discussing these areas.