

French

Why Should I Study French?

- French is spoken by more than 220 million people over 5 continents.
- It is the second most widely learned language after English and the sixth most widely spoken in the world. Along with English, it is the only language taught in every country of the world.
- Over 40% of the English language comes directly from French so students can easily learn and understand French
- Certain third level colleges in Ireland require you to have a language such as French for entry.
- It is the language of culture: cooking, fashion, theatre, visual arts, dance and theatre
- It is a language for travel, higher education, international relations and business.
- It's fun to learn and an absolute pleasure to speak and listen to! It is the most beautiful language in the world!

What Will I Learn?

Students of French learn in a communicative style emphasising the four language skills of: **Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking.**

Students studying French start as beginners in first year and go right through to sixth year. The approach is always to study what's relevant in the language so that if they go to a French-speaking country they should be able to communicate effectively, understand what they are reading and hearing and develop these skills as the years go by.

Our aim is also to encourage them to develop an appreciation of French culture and of language learning in general.

How Will I Learn it

We use a communicative approach to language teaching, with lessons conducted largely in French, supported by careful study and practice of grammar and vocabulary.

Some of the things you may do with your teacher and classmates include: class oral work, pair work, group work, acting out dialogues, vocabulary learning, oral and written grammar drills, listening to and watching recorded material, songs, playing language games, dictation, using interactive computer resources

How Will I Know How I Am Getting On?

Your teacher will let you know:

- what you have done well
- how you can improve your work.

Other things you may do Include:

- ask a friend to look at your work
- look back over your work to learn from your mistakes
- test yourself, using questions from your textbook and practicing pronunciation.

How Will it be Assessed?

The Junior Cycle exam is a common level exam.

You will:

Answer questions relating to the 3 skills of **Reading, Writing and Listening**
You will also participate in various CBAS (Classroom Based Assessments) with one CBA focused on the skill of speaking.

Will French be very different after the Junior Cycle?

In **Leaving Certificate French** there are 2 levels: Ordinary and Higher Level
You will :

- Continue to develop all 4 skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking
- Sit and official Oral exam (No oral exam at Junior Cycle)

Other Fun Learning Experiences/Activities

- French Films
- Visit from French Theatre Company
- French Breakfast
- 1st Year **French Trip to Paris**
- Department of Education and Skills **Language Assistant Programme**. This has been a rich source of authentic language input for many years.
- **Linguistic Exchanges** encouraged and facilitated
- **Linguascope Licence:** Worlds Number 1 interactive language learning platform for schools