

'The Aspiring French Linguist'

KS4/5



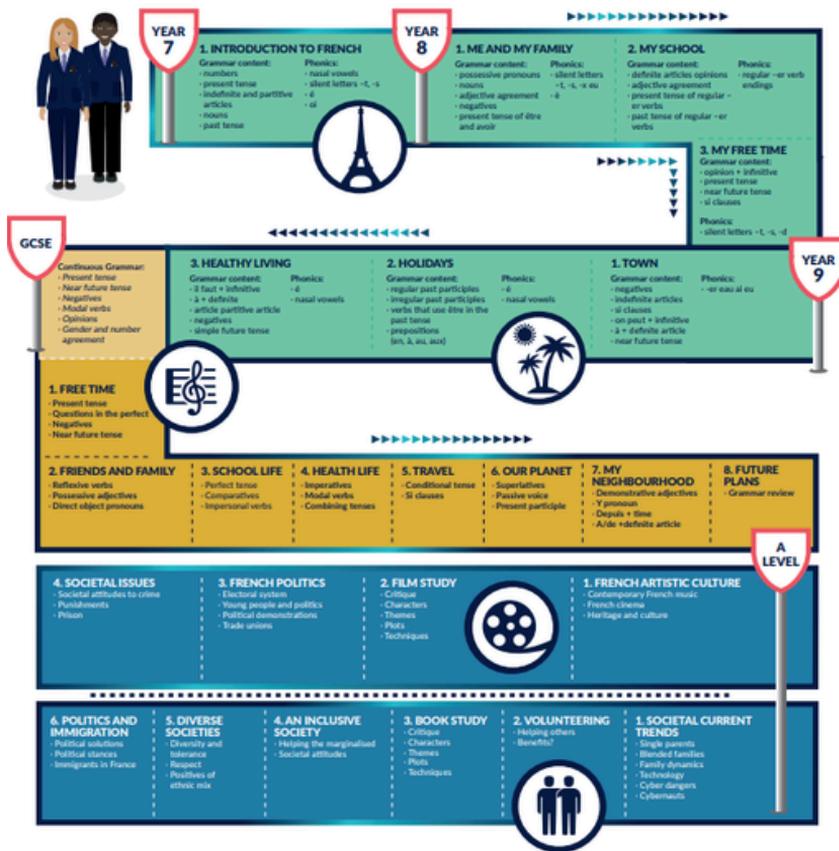
CHELtenham
BOURNside
SCHOOL

“ Inspiring lives through learning ”

'The Aspiring French Linguist'



FRENCH



'The Aspiring French Linguist'



Welcome to the Aspiring French Language Pathway.

Studying French is a fantastic choice because it opens doors to a wide range of opportunities, both academically and professionally. French is an official language in 29 countries, making it the second most-used official language worldwide.

Possible careers include translating and interpreting, journalism, law, publishing, museum curator or working for an international company.

To improve your French we recommend that you try:

- Immersing yourself in French through films and TV series
- Participating in language competitions or cultural events
- Reading books in French
- Completing an EPQ related to French language or culture

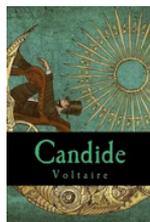
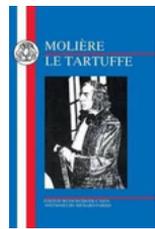
Mr Bass

Head of Modern Foreign Languages

Reading list



- **Le ble en herbe**- *Colette*
- **Le chateau de ma mere** - *Marcel Pagnol*
- **Les mains sales** - *Jean-Paul Sartre*
- **La Tartuffe** - *Moliere*
- **Candide** - *Voltaire*
- **L'etranger** - *Albert Camus*
- **Bonjour tristesse** - *Francoise Sagan*
- **Elise ou la vraie vie** - *Claire Etcherelli*
- **Un sac de billes** - *Joseph Joffo*
- **No et moi** - *Grimbert*



Competitions



French writing competition run by Kings College London

The Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures has opened its annual writing competition for A-Level students interested in modern languages and comparative literature.

Winners will receive a voucher and have their work published in one of the department's four student magazines.

Listen and Watch



Podcasts



French Voices

Help to improve your listening comprehension by listening to interviews with French speakers.



News in slow French

Listen to the news at a slower speed



The Earful Tower

Weekly podcast all about Paris, hosted by Oliver Gee. With a huge variety of guests - from cooks and comedians to TV hosts and tour guides - this show will transport you to the City of Lights and make you feel like you've met the characters that make it shine.

Listen and Watch



Films/YouTube/TV



Les 400 coups

1959 French coming-of-age drama film.



Entre les murs

2008 French drama film. Bégaudeau's experiences as a French language and literature teacher in a middle school in the 20th arrondissement of Paris



La haine

1995 French social thriller film, chronicles a day and night in the lives of three friends from a poor immigrant neighbourhood in the suburbs of Paris.



Les Misérables

In 19th-century France, Jean Valjean, who has been hunted by the ruthless policeman Javert after breaking parole, agrees to care for a factory worker's daughter. The decision changes their lives forever.



Chocolat

Single mum Vianne arrives in an old-fashioned French town and opens up a chocolate shop during Lent. Soon she's the talk of the town.



Les Choristes

Pierre, a successful orchestra conductor, returns home when his mother dies. He stumbles upon an old diary and recollects the childhood school memories and his music teacher Clement Mathieu.



La vie en rose

2007 biographical musical film about the life of French singer Édith Piaf.



Amélie

Despite being caught in her imaginative world, young waitress Amélie decides to help people find happiness.

Listen and Watch



Social media

YouTube

There are a lot of good channels for grammar concepts.

Search for any grammar concept you're unsure of and there'll be an in-depth video tutorial.

"Easy French"

Useful channel for listening. They have both English and French subtitles, and they also make slow spoken French videos for less confident listeners. They tend to do questionnaires with Parisians, which is great for anyone who doesn't often hear fluent and authentic French.

Work Experience and Events



Work experience in French and linguistics gives you the chance to explore how language, culture and communication connect beyond the classroom. Whether you're developing your French through cultural study, travelling abroad, or learning how languages function in real-world contexts, these opportunities help you see the value of French in education, work and everyday life.

French linguist-related experiences can include:

- Work placements abroad, such as Blue Stamp Travel programmes in France (for 16–18 year olds)
- Travel and hospitality roles, including opportunities with companies like Abercrombie & Kent
- Literature and translation, for example studying French crime fiction through Open University
- Cultural exploration, such as OpenLearn courses on traditional and francophone music
- Linguistic study, through OpenLearn's Language in the Real World

These opportunities help build communication, analytical and cultural awareness skills, while supporting future study or careers involving languages, translation, travel, journalism or international relations.

Work Experience and Events



Work Experience Abroad | Blue Stamp Travel

Work Experience Abroad packages for 16-18 year olds, travelling with a group of students from across the county to France and Spain during the school holiday.



Abercrombie & Kent | Luxury Travel & Vacations

Whether you're an expert in travel, operations, guest services, or beyond, we invite you to bring your talent and curiosity to a company that values innovation, collaboration, and authenticity.



Crime Fiction in French | Open University

You will discover some important authors and work on extracts from some well-known crime novels. You will analyse the language of le polar and explore the translation of French crime fiction into other languages.



Cultures | OpenLearn | Open University

Address the question of traditional music and music from the francophone world. The course is divided into three sections: 'Is traditional music, current music?', 'The musical heritage of Normandy' and 'Music of the francophone world'.



Languages in the real world | OpenLearn

Language in the real world, explains and illustrates why a knowledge about how language works (i.e. 'linguistics') is helpful – some might say essential – for different aspects of our everyday lives.



The Careers Team at Bournside deliver regular Inspire Breakfast Lectures. Open to students in Year 10 - 13, these business-focused breakfasts invite speakers from all corners of industry to share their professional experiences and valuable insights with Bournside students over breakfast; opening our eyes to the opportunities available across many industry sectors.

[Take a look at upcoming speakers and reserve your space here.](#)

