

MFL Parent Forum

Wednesday 4th October 2023



Commitment - Respect - Excellence - Self-belief - Strength

Le succès est la somme des petits efforts,
répétés jour après jour

L.R.Collier



EL ÉXITO

OCURRE CUANDO
TUS SUEÑOS SON
MÁS GRANDES QUE
TUS EXCUSAS

“The difference between try and triumph is a little umph.”

~Author Unknown



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Outline of the Evening

- To share some key information regarding exam boards, tier of entries etc.
- To explain the year ahead and how we can work as a triumvirate (pupil, parent, school) to provide key support and
- To share some key dates
- To share some specific Language exam information

Key Information

Which exam board are we using?

AQA

How many exams will my child sit?

4 exams, of various timings dependent upon the skill and the tier your child has been entered for.

The four components are:

Listening / Speaking / Reading / Writing

80 marks per exam, total 240 marks

There are two tiers of entry

Foundation and Higher



MFL GCSE exam structure

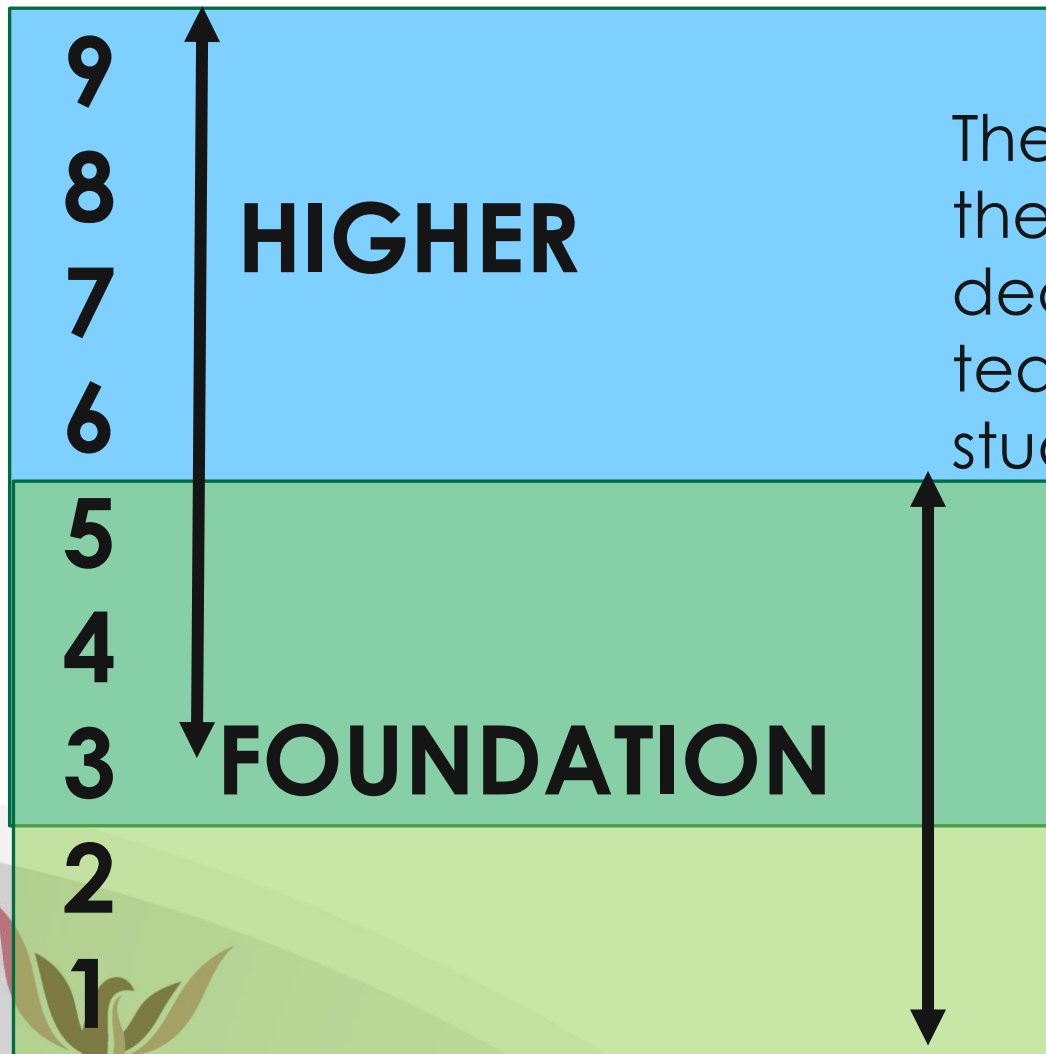
Listening exam 25% - Foundation 35 mins /Higher 45 mins

Speaking Exam 25% - Foundation 7-10 minutes /Higher 10-12 minutes

Reading exam 25% - Foundation 45 mins /Higher 1 hour

Writing Exam 25% - Foundation 1hr /Higher 1hr15

Key Information



The decision as to which Tier the students will sit will be decided between the teacher and the individual student after the PPEs.

Key dates

These are the provisional dates for the GCSE

French

Listening – 14th May AM

Reading – 14th May AM

Writing – 24th May AM

Speaking – 2nd April- 17th May

There will be a mock PPE in Nov.

The school PPE 8th January to 19th January including a speaking exam.

Spanish

Listening – 4th June AM

Reading – 4th June AM

Writing – 10th June PM

Speaking – 2nd April – 17th May

If there is time, there will be a 3rd PPE

Our Expectations

- All homework is to be completed to the necessary standard and handed in on time.
- Students should thoroughly prepare for the fortnightly vocabulary test. They are given the vocabulary a week in advance.
- Students should thoroughly prepare for the fortnightly controlled writing task. The topic is given a week in advance.



Our Expectations

- All students should be 100% focused in lessons. Languages are difficult but are made more so if students are not concentrating.
- Students should attend any intervention offered to them



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Interventions

- Currently these are on a 4-week rota and students should make every effort to attend all 4 sessions.
- After the PPE, there will more sessions on specific areas that students are finding difficult.
- There may also be additional speaking sessions.
- There will also be some Saturday revision sessions just prior to the final exams.



Securing a GCSE in French/Spanish

Students need to be **responsible** – attending every lesson with a positive attitude to learning.

Meeting homework deadlines. – ***at times this is a concern. Students are not always able to demonstrate revision has taken place.***

Students need to be **reflective** – effective use of self and teacher assessments to identify areas of strength and areas of misunderstanding. ***Then ask for help.***



Securing a GCSE in French/Spanish

Students need to be **resilient** – languages can be difficult. They must be ready to use their own language to help with comprehension and ensure that they revise thoroughly

Students need to be **resourceful** – Getting help: teachers, friends, internet, after school revision sessions, forming a study group are all good ways to be resourceful.



What can I do to prepare myself for the final exams?

- Regular revision of key topic vocabulary. Short, sharp bursts on a daily basis is more effective than sitting for an hour once a week
- Regular revision of verb conjugations for the relevant tenses



What can I do to prepare myself for the final exams?

- Ensure you know which time references or structures accompany particular tenses.
- Learn some set structures which can be transferred to which ever topic you are writing or speaking about.



What can I do to prepare myself for the final exams?

- Use and understand the exam mark schemes. You will have seen these in lessons.
- Practise your responses out aloud so you get used to hearing yourself answering questions.
- Prepare thoroughly for timed writing tasks, use them to support your revision as the year progresses. Don't leave this to do as a last-minute exercise.



What can I do to prepare myself for the final exams?

- Use any of the websites that you have been referred to by teachers.
- Attend intervention sessions as we will be giving tips and strategies to help improve your performance in the exam.



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Revision

Find a revision
buddy

Ask for help

Attend
intervention

Finish one topic
before moving on
to the next

Hand in any
questions you have
done for marking

Work through past
papers or individual
questions

Quizlet

Find a quiet space

Make flashcards or
revision cards

Practice speaking
every day

BBC bitesize

Speak out loud

Decide what to
focus on

Little and often

Language gym



Tenses, vocabulary and high frequency verbs

- Create flashcards to help your topic specific vocabulary. Put all the vocabulary for a particular topic onto one flash card.
- Create flashcards for different high frequency structures such as adjectives, opinion phrases, times frames.
- Carry your flashcards in your bag so that when you have a moment you can spend a few minutes revising.



Tenses, vocabulary and high frequency verbs

- If you look up a word you want to use because you do not know it, write it down for future use.
- Methodical and thorough learning of vocabulary is really important for all skills. The more students know, the better their command of the language.



Tenses, vocabulary and high frequency verbs

- Create flashcards to help you revise tenses. Either group all verbs together in the same tense or have individual verbs in all tenses on one flashcard.

Present Tense

Je mange

il/elle mange

Nous mangeons

Como

Come

Comemos

Je regarde

il/elle regarde

Nous regardons

Veo

Ve

Vemos

Je joue

il/elle joue

Nous jouons

Juego

Juega

Jugamos

Manger

I eat - Je mange

I ate - J'ai mangé

I am going to eat - Je vais manger

I will eat - Je mangerai

I used to eat - Je mangeais

I would eat - Je mangerais

Comer

I eat - Como

I ate - Comí

I am going to eat - Voy a comer

I will eat - Comeré

I used to eat - comía

I would eat - comería

Writing

The tasks will be on any of the sub-topics that we have covered during the course. Students will not be able to use a dictionary and will not know the topics prior to the exam.

Students will practice exam style tasks in lessons, for homework and in assessments and will have a good knowledge and understanding of the mark scheme.



Speaking

- This will include anything covered during the course. Students will nominate 1 Theme to discuss.
- There will be a role play,
- a photo to describe and then
- general conversation on two themes, one of which the students will choose. This is the same for both Foundation and Higher Tier.



Speaking

- On the day of the examination, students will have 10 minutes preparation before their exam to prepare the role play and the photo.
- There will be no use of dictionaries but students can make notes of one side of A4 paper maximum on the role play and the photo and then take them into the exam to support.



Reading and Listening strategies

Be aware of distractors – is there a negative in the sentence.

Read entire paragraphs/ sentences taking into account frequency adverbs / time frames / negatives.

Do not just latch onto the first word you hear or see. Listen and jot down notes or read the whole section .

Listen to the small details, that is where the difference will be.



Underline key words and information

Routinely underlining or highlighting key information to help pick out what is needed focuses the mind.

In the listening, students should think about what vocabulary they might expect to hear or think of synonyms for words provided.

In the writing, students should tick off each piece of information required once they have provided it. .



Neat handwriting

The easier the students make it for the examiner to read their answers, the more marks they could obtain.

The papers are scanned before they are sent to the examiner which can make unclear handwriting more difficult to read.



Answer everything

Do not leave blank questions which require a letter, positive or negative, true or false. Have a guess.

In the reading, use the question and the text to help and look at the context.

Pay attention to the details.



Useful links

<http://wordreference.com>

<http://verbix.com>

<http://text-to-speech.imtranslator.net/> - you can type text into the box, select the language you would like, then click "say it". The text below will be highlighted karaoke-style word by word as it is read out. This speaks with a very good accent and you can change the speed it reads at - use it to help you crack your pronunciation!

<http://www.memorizenow.com/> - paste paragraphs of text in and label them with the title of the paragraph (item name). Use the arrow buttons above to reveal/conceal more or less words. Hover over the blanks to see the first letter of the missing word. Select the 'letters' tab to just see the first word of each word.

www.cueprompter.com - paste in paragraphs and read them through from an autocue.

<http://popplet.com/> / <http://bubbl.us> - create a mindmap with pictures / keywords / colour coding to help you once you have started practicing your paragraph. Use it to jog your memory and help you when you get stuck.

www.memrise.com - create your own vocab list to learn (import words from excel or by typing them into the website directly). Useful for inputting whole CA text to familiarise yourself or topic-related words for learning and revision purposes. The site tests you in a variety of different ways. Useful for spelling, meaning and pronunciation. There is also an app to download!

www.studystack.com - create wordlists then test yourself with flashcards or games that are generated for you

www.quizlet.com - create flashcards with words/short phrases on. Download the app and practice wherever you go!



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Additional Revision Materials



Revise AQA GCSE (9-1) French Revision Cards: with free online Revision Guide (Revise AQA GCSE MFL 16)

26 May 2017

★★★★★ ~ 86

Misc. Supplies

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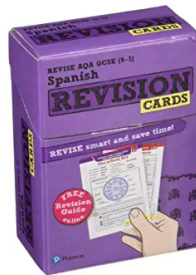
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27 Sep 2019

★★★★★ ~ 28

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Foundation - example questions

Vous envoyez une photo WhatsApp à votre ami(e) français(e).



Vous décrivez là où vous habitez pour votre blog.

Décrivez :

- votre ville et ses attractions
- les aspects positifs et négatifs de votre maison
- une visite récente à votre ville
- où vous voulez habiter à l'avenir.

Ecrivez environ 90 mots en français. Répondez à chaque aspect de la question.

[16 marks]

Vous êtes en vacances et vous écrivez à votre ami(e) français(e).

Mentionnez :

- où vous êtes
- la météo
- l'hôtel
- vos activités de vacances.

Ecrivez environ 40 mots en français.

[16 marks]

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Higher - example questions

Vous décrivez là où vous habitez pour votre blog.

Décrivez :

- votre ville et ses attractions
- les aspects positifs et négatifs de votre maison
- une visite récente à votre ville
- où vous voulez habiter à l'avenir.

Ecrivez environ 90 mots en français. Répondez à chaque aspect de la question.

[16 marks]

Vous écrivez un article sur la qualité des collèges en Grande-Bretagne pour un magazine français.

Décrivez :

- pourquoi votre collège est un bon collège
- un événement scolaire mémorable.

Ecrivez environ **150** mots en **français**. Répondez aux deux aspects de la question.

[32 marks]

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Higher - example questions

Tu amigo(a) español(a) te ha invitado escribir un artículo sobre tu ciudad para su revista escolar.

Menciona:

- Tu ciudad y las atracciones allí
 - Los aspectos positivos y negativos de tu casa
 - Una excursión reciente al centro
 - Donde preferirías vivir en el futuro
- (16 marks)**
- Escribe unas 90 palabras en español. Responde a todos aspectos de la pregunta**

Escribe un artículo sobre la cualidad de los colegios en Gran Bretaña por una revista española

Menciona :

- Las razones de por que tu colegio es un buen colegio
 - Un evento escolar inolvidable
- (32 marks)**

Escribe unas 150 palabras en español . Responde a los dos aspectos de la pregunta