THE WORTHGATE SCHOOL
CANTERBURY

COURSE DESCRIPTOR

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

FRENCH AB INITIO

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Throughout the course, students will learn about the culture of French-speaking countries. This is an important element of the course and will help them develop their command of the language. French is a global language as it is spoken by an estimated 80 million people worldwide and is currently the 5th most spoken language in the world. There are 29 countries in the world that have French as an official language. In today's global job market, many professions demand fluency in a second language. Therefore, the more students can effectively communicate, the more they enhance their value to universities and employers.

PRIOR LEARNING REQUIRED

The French Ab Initio course is intended for students with minimal or no prior exposure to the language. However, individuals interested in learning French should demonstrate a strong enthusiasm for the language and a willingness to enhance their current language abilities.

EXAM BOARD

IB

COURSE CONTENT

Year 1	Year 2
Identities • Personal attributes • Personal relationships • Eating and drinking • Physical well-being **Experiences** • Daily routine • Leisure • Holidays • Festivals and celebrations **Human Ingenuity** • Transport • Entertainment • Media • Technology	**Social Organisation** • Neighbourhood • Education • The workplace • Social issues **Sharing the planet** • Climate • Physical geography • The environment • Global issues

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ASSESSMENT

Formal internal assessments take place regularly about once every half term and homework is set on a regular basis.
Grades are determined by final examinations which take place in April / May at the end of the 2-year course.
An end of year exam must be passed for entry to year 2 and a mock exam must be passed for entry into the public exams.

Paper	Length of paper	Weighting
Paper 1 – Writing	1 hour	25%
Paper 2 Reading and Listening	1 hour 45 minutes	50%
Individual Oral SL – presentation of an image and discussion	15 minutes	25%

This course is only available at standard level.

TEXTBOOKS/REVISION GUIDES

Title	ISBN	Author

Panorama Francophone Spanish Ab Initio for the IB Diploma Coursebook 1	978-1-10876-037-9	Daniele Bordais Cambridge University Press
Panorama Francophone Spanish Ab Initio for the IB Diploma Coursebook 2	978-1-10876-043-0	Daniele Bordais Cambridge University Press

Summaries of each unit, notes and past examination papers will be a major source of revision. Teachers will also provide access to online support and resources.

HIGHER EDUCATION PATHWAYS

French will enhance skills in communication, problem solving, critical thinking and human relations. These skills are highly valued by universities and employers. French is useful for personal development and future careers such as translation, tourism, business, law, public relations, journalism, advertising, international marketing, teaching, medicine, and healthcare.

COMPLEMENTARY SUBJECTS OF STUDY

Linguistics, Literature, Modern Foreign Languages, History, Sociology, International Relations, Politics, Philosophy, and Economics.

CURRICULUM DIRECTOR

Ms. Jemma Jones