

ÉCOLE DES ROCHES FRENCH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE 2026-27





WHERE PAST MEETS FUTURE

Heritage Meets Innovation on Our 50-Hectare Campus

Founded in 1899, École des Roches embodies 125 years of educational heritage whilst embracing a contemporary pedagogical renaissance. Beginning September 2025, our partnership with École Jeannine Manuel will enhance our proven approach, combining French academic excellence with intensive English and international immersion.

Walk across our magnificent 50-hectare campus in the heart of Normandy and you'll overhear conversations about climate solutions and artificial intelligence, witness students practising interculturality, and experience the camaraderie, respect and understanding that defines our community. Historic buildings house state-of-the-art facilities where contemporary dynamism meets tradition and every stone tells a story of educational innovation.

World-Class Facilities as Your Learning Laboratory

Our comprehensive campus features professional science laboratories, climbing walls, tennis courts, golf facilities, a swimming pool, and sustainable agriculture programmes. Students also benefit from our nearby private aviation program and equestrian centre, creating unparalleled opportunities for hands-on learning across every discipline.

Excellence and Care in an Intimate Environment

Our educational approach combines excellence and benevolence—academic rigour paired with genuine care for each student's development. With 240 students representing 40 nations, we maintain an intimate community where relationships flourish and comprehensive support thrives.

Small classes of 6-12 students ensure personalised attention, supported by our exceptional 4:1 student-to-teacher ratio. We embrace a growth mindset approach, celebrating challenge and development over traditional ranking systems, whilst drawing upon the pedagogical expertise of our École Jeannine Manuel partnership.

Unique Countryside Excellence Near Paris

École des Roches offers a rare combination: International Baccalaureate excellence with authentic French cultural immersion, developing true multilingual fluency in a spectacular countryside setting just one hour from Paris. Unlike urban international schools, our rural sanctuary provides space for reflection, creativity, and personal growth whilst maintaining exceptional academic standards and preparation for the world's leading universities.

YOUR LANGUAGE JOURNEY

Achieve Cultural Fluency in the Heart of Normandy

Where authentic French cultural immersion meets contemporary pedagogy, École des Roches develops students who think in both languages, mobilise two cognitive and cultural universes, and move from one framework of thought to another. Our action-oriented methodology transforms language learning from theoretical study into conversational confidence through meaningful experiences in our international community.

Growth Mindset in Action

Our approach embraces challenge as opportunity. Language acquisition requires persistence and resilience through struggle, and we celebrate each step in the journey toward fluency. Students discover how to tackle challenging new skills whilst developing metacognitive abilities that transfer beyond French to all pursuits, academic and personal. In our rigorous yet supportive environment, errors are essential and expected steps in the growth process.

Thoughtful Integration & Immersion Opportunities

INTENSIVE FRENCH LANGUAGE TRAINING

Students receive 25 hours per week with action-oriented methodology focusing on listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills through cultural workshops including drama, music, phonetics, and civilisation.

PROGRESSIVE ACADEMIC INTEGRATION

Students gradually integrate into mathematics, sciences, and physical education classes—ensuring no loss of skills in key academic subjects whilst developing bilingual competency for academic success in France or internationally.

CULTURAL IMMERSION CURRICULUM

Our immersive approach includes full integration with French students in daily life and co-curricular activities, paired with monthly cultural excursions and regional trips within France that bring classroom learning to life.

FLEXIBLE DURATION

Most students choose our autumn semester (14 weeks), full semester (18 weeks), or complete academic year. Short immersion stays are available for successive two-week periods, accommodating diverse academic calendars and family needs.

French Proficiency Levels

We assess student progress using the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CECRL), the European standard that universities and employers worldwide recognise for measuring French language proficiency.

BEGINNER (A1)

- Can recognise and use simple words and phrases for specific purposes.
- Can introduce themselves and others, ask and answer basic questions about home and acquaintances.

ELEMENTARY (A2)

- Can understand isolated phrases and common expressions related to areas of personal relevance.
- Can communicate during routine tasks that require a basic exchange of information on familiar matters.

INTERMEDIATE (B1)

- Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters.
- Can deal with most situations whilst travelling in French-speaking areas.
- Can produce simple connected text on familiar topics.

ADVANCED (B2)

- Can understand the main ideas of complex texts, including technical articles.
- Can communicate with spontaneity and fluency during conversations with native speakers in a comfortable way for all participants.

MASTER/PROFICIENT (C1)

- Can understand a wide range of long, complex texts, including nuances of style.
- Can express themselves fluently and spontaneously in social, professional, or academic contexts without apparent effort to find words.





ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Dynamic Learning Structure

Small class groups (8-12 students) with individualised attention ensure every student receives the support needed to flourish. Our skills-oriented approach focuses systematically on listening, speaking, reading, and writing through engaging cultural workshops that bring French language and civilisation to life.

CULTURAL WORKSHOPS & IMMERSION

- Drama productions developing oral confidence and cultural understanding
- Music sessions exploring French compositions and contemporary culture
- Phonetics training for accurate pronunciation and accent refinement
- Civilisation studies connecting language to French history and society

Assessment & Academic Recognition

INITIAL EVALUATION & PLACEMENT

Students test into appropriate language levels, ensuring balanced challenge with achievable success from day one. Our diagnostic assessment identifies individual strengths whilst creating personalised learning pathways that build confidence through measurable progress.

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT WITH GROWTH MINDSET FEEDBACK

Regular evaluation focuses on progress and improvement rather than comparison, encouraging continuous development whilst celebrating linguistic breakthroughs. Students develop self-assessment skills that foster academic autonomy and lifelong learning.

SEAMLESS PROGRESSION

From grade 10, students may choose immersion in the French national curriculum or the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, preparing for university success in France or internationally.

ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS

Comprehensive documentation ensures a smooth transition to the next educational stage, whether continuing at École des Roches or transferring to other institutions globally. Our internationally recognised qualifications open doors to prestigious universities worldwide.

INDIVIDUAL PROGRESS PORTFOLIOS

Students maintain comprehensive documentation of cultural and linguistic development, including project work, cultural experiences, and reflective learning that demonstrates growth in intercultural fluency and academic achievement.

OPTIONAL DELF CERTIFICATION

Students benefit from expert preparation for the internationally recognised Diplôme d'Études en Langue Française (DELF) to validate their French proficiency for university admission and global career opportunities.

International Student Experiences

OPTIONAL HOLIDAY STAYS

During the academic year's four breaks (October, Christmas, Winter, and Easter), École des Roches may organise international excursions for students based on sufficient interest. Past examples have included European tours visiting Prague, Vienna, Budapest, and Strasbourg, as well as a Barcelona discovery combined with skiing in Andorra, though specific destinations and availability vary by year.

Our magnificent historic campus in Normandy provides an unparalleled setting for learning and growth. Set on 50 hectares of beautiful countryside, our facilities support every aspect of student development—academic, athletic, creative, and personal.

- Theatre and performance spaces
- Visual arts studios
- Robotics laboratories
- Kitchen

- Sustainable agriculture gardens *Coming 2026*
- Countryside trails
- Outdoor classroom pavilions
- Bee-keeping apiaries

- Tennis courts
- Paddle courts *Coming 2026*
- Golf course
- Go-Kart circuit
- Swimming pool
- Climbing walls
- Fitness and weight training facilities
- Multi-sport gymnasium
- Yoga and mindfulness studios
- Athletics track and fields
- Go Kart track
- Aviation centre access
- Equestrian centre access



Since 1899, École des Roches has championed the synthesis of intellectual development and physical activities, creating an environment where students develop the qualities essential to leaders: a sense of effort, team spirit, competitive drive, endurance, and self-transcendence.

*Preparing global leaders
through teamwork and
personal growth*

- Service learning
- Student governance opportunities
- International collaboration projects
- Debating clubs and Model UN
- Journalism programmes
- Civic engagement initiatives

Distinguishing students in university applications

- Sustainable agriculture projects
- Environmental stewardship programmes
- Bee-keeping projects
- Research and innovation initiatives

Building confidence and artistic skills

- Theatre productions and ensemble music
- Digital photography and visual arts
- Dance programmes
- Performance opportunities

*Cutting-edge technical
skills alongside academic
excellence*

- Robotics
- Artificial intelligence
- Programming
- Mathematical competitions

Fostering leadership qualities and the spirit of fair play

- **Elite Instruction:** Tennis, Golf, Horseback riding, Fencing, Aviation
- **Team Sports:** Rugby, Basketball, Football/Soccer, Futsal, Handball, Volleyball
- **Individual Sports & Fitness:** Boxing, Swimming, Badminton, Table tennis, Climbing, Fitness training, and Yoga



YOUR COMMUNITY: WHERE BELONGING MEETS GROWTH

A Home Away from Home

Our exclusive boarding experience centres on wellbeing, safety, and personal development within our distinguished international community. House parents act as experienced educators to provide bespoke guidance whilst fostering the cosmopolitan atmosphere that defines École des Roches.



SIX HISTORIC BOARDING HOUSES

- Personal mentoring with four house parents per residence
- Students in elegant single-sex houses: Les Pins, La Prairie, Le Vallon Le Coteau, Les Sablons, Maslacq
- Beautifully appointed residences featuring fitness suites, social lounges, cinema rooms, kitchens, and refined common spaces



STRUCTURED EXCELLENCE

- Morning seminars through evening tutorials with comprehensive academic mentoring
- Guided study sessions with individual academic coaching
- Cultural enrichment time for personal interests and leadership development
- Concierge-style support ensuring seamless daily life and weekend privileges for senior students



EXCEPTIONAL DINING & LIFESTYLE

- Restaurant-quality meals prepared by professional chefs
- Fresh, locally-sourced cuisine featuring French gastronomy
- International menu options accommodating diverse cultural preferences
- Dietary needs are accommodated with extensive daily choices



Cultural Sophistication & Global Access

AUTHENTIC FRENCH CULTURAL IMMERSION

Students experience genuine French intellectual traditions whilst celebrating the cultural sophistication of our international community. Our immersive approach develops true cultural fluency—the ability to navigate seamlessly between French academic discourse and diverse perspectives, preparing graduates for leadership in both French institutions and international careers.

CULTURAL EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME

- Curated cultural excursions exploring Norman heritage and Parisian sophistication
- Guided visits to premier museums, theatres, and universities
- Immersive experiences in French art, history, and contemporary culture
- Seasonal traditions connecting students to France's rich cultural calendar

STRATEGIC LOCATION ADVANTAGES

- One hour from Paris by train
- Exclusive weekend experiences in France's cultural capital
- Access to Parisian universities and grandes écoles
- Global connectivity through international airports and transport networks
- Normandy's heritage from D-Day history to coastal elegance

ALUMNI NETWORK & UNIVERSITY CONNECTIONS

- Distinguished alum network through École Jeannine Manuel partnership
- Mentorship opportunities from graduates at prestigious institutions
- Career guidance extending well beyond graduation
- Global university connections spanning leading international institutions



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