

## Why French?



- Close neighbouring nations, New Caledonia and Vanuatu, speak French.
- French is an official language of the United Nations, UNESCO, NATO, the Olympic Committee, and the International Red Cross.
- French, one of the romance languages is officially spoken in 32 different countries with approximately 75 million mother tongue speakers.
- English has borrowed many words (approximately 45% of modern English words are derived from French) from the French language including such as déjà vu, café, ballet, décor, naïve, restaurant and many more.



*Aspiration, Belief, Motivation, Success*

## Student Comments

*"Studying French Immersion is an interesting experience, I have been studying French from this year only. The lessons are a good mix of French and English instruction. I thought it may be only in the French language and I wouldn't understand, but it's not! Therefore I am successful in this class and it's challenging, but not too challenging."*

- Colin Cox (Year 9)

*"Mrs Weterkamp is an amazing teacher. She gives everyone an equal amount of attention. I love the idea of learning a language to travel the world. I studied French in primary school and I wanted to pursue learning the French language and History. It's cool to learn from a different perspective."*

- Lotti Pett (Year 9)



**Smithfield  
State High School**

## For more information

and to register your interest please contact:

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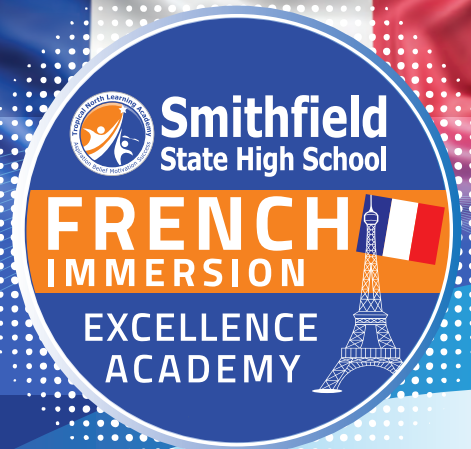
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**Smithfield  
State High School**

*World class quality outcomes for our students*

## EXCELLENCE PROGRAMS



**TrinityBeach**  
STATE SCHOOL



Our Partners  
**JAMES COOK  
UNIVERSITY**  
AUSTRALIA



## French Immersion Academy

*'An extension learning program through language'*

### What is French Immersion?

- A program which immerses students in French
- Students learn History and Geography in French
- Teachers use innovative pedagogy to enhance their students' learning
- Designed for non-native French speakers

### Why enrol in French Immersion?

- Develops critical thinking and citizenship skills
- Become bilingual, one of the most desired skills by employers
- Accelerate learning through the immersion program
- Students study the same units of work as the whole cohort, but in French.

*"Learn a new language to help you in the future if you want to travel or it may help in getting a job. I also like being in a smaller class with my friends." - Jack Lyons (Year 9)*

## Eligibility

### Minimum Eligibility Criteria

Students will be chosen using a combination of the following:

- **Student Achievement Data**
  - Academic results - result ratings of A/B in English, Maths, Science and Humanities
  - NAPLAN results - Top two bands across the majority of the criteria
- Consistent attendance, no less than 95 per cent
- Aspirations for a tertiary pathway
- Behaviour that supports individual and group learning
- Works independently and is developing self-directed learning skills
- Conscientiously works to meet set goals
- **BYOD - students must have their own laptop to bring to every lesson**



**For further information please visit our website**

<https://smithfieldshs.eq.edu.au/>

Home > Curriculum > Specialist programs



## Pen Pals Program

We have a "Pen Pals" program which has been an ongoing partnership for the past 12 months. In this time our students have exchanged letters and PowerPoint presentations about Cairns.

We are hoping to expand our Pen Pals to parts of New Caledonia or other French-speaking countries in the Pacific region.

We currently have three schools in France in different regions that we have been working with: in the Alps, Southern and Northern areas.

## Our Successes

- Students have received scholarships to study French in New Caledonia and Vanuatu
- Students have been successful in competitions, including a winner of the Senior French Speaking Competition
- Over 80% of our senior French students graduate French at an A standard
- In the past, Smithfield State High School students have had the opportunity to participate in student exchange programs to both France and Canada. These students have experienced a French/Canadian student living with them and their families and they have been hosted in these countries for 2+ months. Studying French as an elective makes this experience authentic and provides the ability to put language skills to use.