

## Fristory at South Wolds!





Welcome to Fristory - a French immersion programme where students learn their history lessons in a French speaking classroom.

## How it all began...

We had a head of History who had degree level French and a head of French with A level History who came up with a new idea... Fristory! Both of them had lived abroad and understood the value of immersing yourself in the language as fully as possible! It started 13 years ago and many of our previous Fristory students have gone on to study French at University often twinned with another subject such as history. We have found the course to be extremely beneficial for our more able students and they enjoy the additional challenge.

We have two Fristory groups. One in year 7 and one in year 8, after which students continue their history studies in English in order to prepare for the GCSE course. Class size is usually around 25-28 students. The same students are together in their language classes as they will work at a more advanced level.

For Fristory lessons, we keep them as similar to history as possible, following their faculty guidelines. Lessons are co-planned by a French and a History teacher so that students get the expertise of both subjects. The lessons are exactly the same as the history taught in English. We translate the lessons into French and alter the activities to make them more accessible. We do a lot of acting! Student translators are also a key feature in lessons to ensure full understanding.

Students complete assessments in English at the end of each half term which are marked by the History Teacher and are given grades according to the History curriculum.

**French:** As you would expect, students make much quicker progress in French than their peers in other classes and usually exceed their target grades set from KS2.

**History:** All students are performing in line with the rest of their year group. With all assessments done in English, the comparison is easy. In the majority, Fristory students are performing above the average for their year group.

I really enjoy Fristory because it is very challenging but the lessons are active and fun and it has really helped me to improve my French. I would definitely recommend it to younger students who want to try something new!

Current year 8 student.