



**Alliance Française**

**Albury-Wodonga**

**New Student**

**Welcome**

**Guide**

## **Welcome**

Thanks for joining Alliance Française. You're now part of a network of over 817 Alliances with over 400,000 students in 133 countries.

Our local Alliance Française Albury-Wodonga (AFAW) was established in 1998 as a non-for-profit organisation run completely by volunteers.

As a new student we want you to feel relaxed and comfortable about learning French. Unlike school there are no fails or penalties and you learn at a pace that suits you. The speed at which you progress is entirely up to you.

We want you to enjoy your learning and have fun. After all, most people are here simply to do something different and keep their brains active!

## **Website**

If you need any information please check out our website [www.afaw.org.au](http://www.afaw.org.au) first. We do our best to keep it up to date and it provides all the information you'll need.

## **Classes**

We operate 2 hour classes on Mondays and Wednesdays and a Monday Conversation class for 4 terms each year roughly aligned with the NSW school term. Each term consists of 8 weeks. All dates are on our website.

Classes are at 4 levels; Beginners, Beginners Year 2, Intermediate and Advanced. We also offer a 6 month (2 term) Travel for Beginners class for those who just want the 'basics' to be able to travel to a French speaking country.

You're welcome to move between classes as you see fit and there are no expectations for you to move to a higher level if you don't feel confident. The decision is entirely yours.

Conversation class starts at 5.30pm and classes at 6.30pm. We have a short break around 7.30pm.

## **Texts**

Some classes require text books. They can be purchased during the registration process and will be available for you to collect at your first class.

## **Flash**

Each month we'll email you our newsletter 'Alliance Flash'. It will help keep you up to date with all that's going on.

## **Registration and Payments**

Registration and payment for all classes and membership (due annually) can be made from our website. Payment can be either Credit card or EFT Bank transfer. We expect all students to have registered and paid by the start of each term. Membership is compulsory for all students.

We offer a 10% discount on class fees if you pay before classes start. A 20% discount also applies for concession holders and full time students.

For students unable to commit to all classes each term you can purchase classes individually if you know in advance how many classes you're able to attend. These can be purchased on our website.

## **Change your mind?**

We understand that sometimes our classes are not what you envisaged or that circumstances arise where you're unable to continue with us. If you do have concerns about any classes please let us know.

Should you choose to leave early we will pro-rata refund you for remaining classes, just let us know via email and we can make arrangements.

We will refund your text book cost as long as it's not been marked or damaged. Memberships are not refundable.

## **Library and Audio Visual**

We have a wide selection of books and DVDs that are free to borrow. Ask your teacher to show you where they're kept. Just help yourself and write the details in the book.

## **Social events**

Each year we try to organise a number of social events which you can attend. All the information is provided on our website. These include:

Café Bavard – A very casual opportunity for coffee and chat (you can practise your French) at La Maison (on the causeway) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and last Sundays of the month at 3pm. Bookings not required, just turn up.

Film Festival – In conjunction with the Regent Cinemas we run a French Film festival each year featuring a great selection of films for all tastes.

Melbourne French Theatre – Our annual trip to Melbourne to see a performance in French (with English subtitles!)

Bastille Day – A get together to celebrate Bastille Day. We all bring along some food and wine and enjoy a meal together.

AGM – While no-one likes meetings we would love to see new faces at our AGM held in February each year and of course it would be great if people were interested in joining our committee.

## **Diploma of Studies in the French Language (DELF)**

In November we conduct exams for anyone interested in obtaining an internationally recognised Diploma in French. Check out our website for more information.

## **Safety**

It's important that you're safe during classes. If you have any concerns please contact your teacher or let us know via email or call us.

Please make yourself aware of the emergency exits and the emergency meeting point. Notices are provided in every room.

## **Questions or Comments**

We welcome any comments, questions or concerns you have. We are a volunteer community organisation and while we do our best we don't always get it right.

Generally at least one committee member is in attendance in classes each night and you're welcome to discuss any issues with them or you can contact us via email at [enquiries@afalbury.org.au](mailto:enquiries@afalbury.org.au) or phone 0407 734 751.