

Our French curriculum aims to help children enjoy learning a new language, build simple communication skills, and grow confident using everyday French words and phrases. It encourages careful listening through songs and stories, develops early speaking skills, and introduces useful vocabulary such as numbers, colours, food, and family. It also helps children learn about French-speaking cultures and traditions, widening their understanding of the world. Altogether, it lays strong foundations for future language learning by nurturing curiosity, confidence, and enthusiasm.

Implementation

Sequencing and Progression

- The French curriculum is intentionally sequenced to ensure clear progression from foundational language skills toward increasingly complex communication.
- Learning begins with core phonics units, establishing essential sound–spelling knowledge before pupils extend their vocabulary across accessible, concrete themes.
- Intermediate and progressive units then introduce richer vocabulary and more advanced language structures, ensuring pupils gradually build grammatical understanding and confidence.
- The curriculum’s structure—from Core to Early, Intermediate, and finally Progressive Language Units—provides a clear developmental pathway that supports cumulative knowledge, revisits key concepts with increasing sophistication, and secures long-term retention and readiness for continued language study.

Assessment and Feedback

- Teachers reinforce retention through regular retrieval practice, revisiting key vocabulary, phonics, and themes so pupils meet the same concepts with increasing challenge.
- A spiral curriculum ensures previous learning is regularly revisited, helping children build secure, long-term knowledge and confidence in using familiar language.
- Formative assessment takes place through questioning, observation, speaking and listening tasks, and immediate feedback, allowing teachers to address misconceptions quickly.
- Summative assessment is used at key points through structured tasks such as vocabulary checks, short written activities, and speaking assessments to gauge overall progress and readiness for the next stage of learning

The Living Curriculum

French songs utilised to embed the language

Opportunities to use French in simple everyday tasks

Impact

French is taught using a spiral curriculum supported by regular retrieval and ongoing formative and summative assessment. This approach enables pupils to retain more vocabulary and language structures over time, steadily building confidence, accuracy and fluency. As they progress through the school, pupils develop secure listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, preparing them well for continued language learning at secondary school

Useful Links

