

Our French curriculum provides practical and engaging activities to support children to have the confidence and ability to begin to use the French language. Lessons are based around building a bank of vocabulary and being able to create simple sentences. We hope that by giving the children the chance to study and learn a language they will feel inspired to further develop their interest and knowledge in different cultures and languages. Watching and listening to stories, songs, poems and documentaries in French helps children with pronunciation when they are practicing orally and gives them an insight into French culture.

Learning Opportunities

French is taught through the Kapow scheme of work to assist with planning and curriculum coverage. This organises the national curriculum into sequences of learning that enable pupils to acquire a range of knowledge as the sequence and selection of vocabulary and grammar builds on previous learning whilst also feeding forward to future learning.

In each year group in KS2, French is delivered through one themed day per half term. These immersive experiences maximise opportunities for children to explore the language in depth, sparking curiosity and enthusiasm while providing rich, meaningful contexts to practise and rehearse vocabulary and conversational skills. Sequences of learning ensure pupils gain a secure understanding of key vocabulary and provide opportunities for them to practise speaking and pronunciation, listening, reading and writing and grammar in French. Written French is introduced via vocabulary books and basic grammar is taught by initially writing French words and then building up to writing a range of sentences on a particular topic.

Each lesson begins with an introduction to the new vocabulary. Children listen and repeat the new vocabulary then practise rehearsing it through interactive or practical games and written activities.

Progression

Throughout Key Stage 2, key vocabulary is revisited and revised to ensure children retain and use their prior knowledge and build on it. For example, Year 3 learn numbers 1-6 in the Spring term. This is then revisited in the Spring term of Year 4 and again in the summer term of Year 4 when the children also learn numbers 11 – 31. Numbers 0 – 50 are revisited in Year 5 by which point children will have a solid understanding of numbers in French and learn numbers up to 100. Additionally, adjectives of colour, size and shape are learned in Year 3 and then are revised when using them in context. For example, in Year 4 when describing clothes, describing French Monster Pets in Year 5 and when describing getting dressed in France in Year 6. The children also use vocabulary books to help them to revisit vocabulary they need to use for each unit. Our progression of skills document demonstrates how the children progress in their French skills throughout Key Stage 2 in the following areas: speaking and pronunciation, listening, reading and writing, grammar and intercultural understanding.

Assessment

Regular formative assessment takes place in all lessons and enables teachers to quickly identify misconceptions and adapt teaching accordingly to meet the needs of all learners. The structure of the lessons provides the teachers with opportunities to gauge understanding before moving on to the next part of the lesson. This is achieved through a range of methods such as oracy games, written activities and whole class tasks. Each unit of work assesses children's understanding and retention of key knowledge using an assessment quiz with multiple choice and open-ended questions. Half termly assessments support teachers in making a judgement about whether the child is working towards, at or above age-related expectations.