



French Policy

Background:

As directed in the 2014 National Curriculum, all children in KS2 are taught a Modern Foreign Language - at Kniveton we focus on French. When children enter Year 3, we begin this journey, focusing on the basic conversational skills, building on this and applying this knowledge as they travel through school. We strive to ensure that our language teaching provides children with firm foundations which enables them to succeed in the future, and make a seamless transition to secondary school, where they continue to either study French, or begin learning an alternative language.

The national curriculum for languages aims to ensure that all pupils:

- understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources
- speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation
- can write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt
- discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied.

Intent

At Kniveton, we want our children to develop a love of language learning. Learning a language not only develops our communication skills, but also helps us to develop an understanding and appreciation of other countries and cultures.

French at Kniveton follows a carefully planned sequence of lessons, ensuring progressive coverage of the skills required by the national curriculum. Through our teaching, we provide an introduction to the culture of French-speaking countries and communities. We aim to foster children's curiosity and help deepen their understanding of the world. Our curriculum has been chosen to allow opportunity for children to gradually build on their skills, enabling children to express their ideas and thoughts in French and providing opportunities to interact and communicate with others both in speech and in writing.

In Lower KS2, children acquire basic skills and understanding of French with a strong emphasis placed on developing their Speaking and Listening skills. These will be embedded and further developed in Upper KS2, alongside Reading and Writing, gradually progressing onto more complex language concepts, as well as offering opportunities to apply key knowledge from previous learning.

Implementation

We follow a broad and balanced Languages curriculum that builds on previous learning and provides both support and challenge for learners. Pupils at Kniveton are taught for an hour a week from year 3 to year 6. Lessons are sequenced so that prior learning is considered and opportunities for revision of language and grammar are built in.

Teachers use a range of resources to deliver lessons, including the Kapow scheme of work, which is designed with six strands that run throughout. These are:

- Speaking and pronunciation
- Listening
- Reading and writing
- Grammar
- Intercultural understanding
- Language detective skills

Through our French scheme, pupils are given opportunities to communicate for practical purposes around familiar subjects and routines. The scheme provides balanced opportunities for communication in both spoken and written French, although in Year 3/4 the focus is on developing oral skills, before incorporating written French in Year 5/6 and beyond.

Key skills and vocabulary are revisited repeatedly with increasing complexity, allowing pupils to revise and build on their previous learning. Cross-curricular links are included throughout our French units, allowing children to make connections and apply their language skills to other areas of their learning.

Lessons incorporate a range of teaching strategies from independent tasks, paired and group work including role-play, language games and language detective work. Our scheme of work focuses on developing what we term 'language detective skills' and developing an understanding of French grammar, rather than on committing to memory vast amounts of French vocabulary. Our lessons are differentiated for every lesson to ensure that lessons can be accessed and enjoyed by all.

See our Long Term Plan for French and also our Progression of Skills for more details on teaching and learning French at Kniveton.

Impact

Progress in Languages is demonstrated through regularly reviewing and monitoring children's work, to ensure that progression of skills is taking place. Teachers do this by:

- Looking at pupils' work, especially over time as they gain skills and knowledge
- Observing how they perform in lessons
- Talking to them about what they know.

The Languages curriculum will contribute to children's personal development in creativity, independence, judgement and self-reflection. This would be seen in them being able to talk confidently about their work, and sharing their work with others.

Impact can also be measured through key questioning skills built into lessons, child-led assessment such as using our success criteria, retention of knowledge which is identified through our Sticky Learning activities and summative assessments aimed at targeting next steps in learning. By the end of their time at Kniveton Primary School, children should be able to:

- Be able to engage in purposeful dialogue in practical situations (e.g., ordering in a cafe, following directions) and express an opinion.
- Make increasingly accurate attempts to read unfamiliar words, phrases, and short texts.
- Speak and read aloud with confidence and accuracy in pronunciation.
- Demonstrate understanding of spoken language by listening and responding appropriately.
- Use a bilingual dictionary to support their language learning.
- Be able to identify word classes in a sentence and apply grammatical rules they have learnt.
- Have developed an awareness of cognates and near-cognates and be able to use them to tackle unfamiliar words in French, English, and other languages.
- Be able to construct short texts on familiar topics.
- Meet the end of Key Stage 2 stage expectations outlined in the national curriculum for Languages.

Overview in KS2

Year 3/4			Year 5/6	
Cycle A	Cycle B		Cycle A	Cycle B
All about me				
French greetings with puppets (4 lessons)	This is me (NEW unit) (5 lessons)	Autumn 1	Portraits- describing in French (5 lessons)	Birthday celebrations (NEW unit) (5 lessons)
French adjectives of colour, size and shape (5 lessons)	Pets - animals, colour and size (NEW unit) (5 lessons)	Autumn 2	Meet my French family (5 lessons)	In my French house (5 lessons)
Daily life				
Playground games - numbers and age (5 lessons)	School days (NEW unit) (5 lessons)	Spring 1	Clothes- getting dressed in France (5 lessons)	French sport and the Olympics (adapted) (5 lessons)
In a French classroom (5 lessons)	Music - instruments and opinions (NEW unit) (5 lessons)	Spring 2	French weather (adapted) (5 lessons)	French verbs in a week (adapted) (5 lessons)
French speaking world				
Food and drink (NEW unit) (10 lessons)	Shopping (NEW unit) (10 lessons)	Summer 1	French speaking world (5 lessons)	French transport (adapted) (5 lessons)
		Summer 2	Planning a French holiday (5 lessons)	Visiting a town in France (5 lessons)