

# French at Wilbarston

## French: The Curriculum

Learning languages plays a vital role within the curriculum at Wilbarston and is one of many subject areas that will help to fulfil our wider trust mission of creating a curriculum that is broadening the horizons of young people within our school. Learning a foreign language is a liberation from insularity, provides an opening to other cultures and also provides a deeper understanding of the English language through etymology and study of grammar.

Our language curriculum promotes pupils' curiosity and deepens their understanding of the world around them both now and in the past. It will enable pupils to express their thoughts and ideas in another language and communicate these in both speech and in writing. We strive to embed the skills of listening, speaking and reading skills necessary to enable children to use and apply their learning in a variety of contexts and lay the foundations for future language learning. Our Foreign Language curriculum is designed to progressively develop children's skills in languages. We have chosen to teach French.

Our French scheme of work aims to instil a love of language learning and an awareness of other cultures. We want pupils to develop the confidence to communicate in French for practical purposes, using both written and spoken French. Through our scheme of work, we aim to give pupils a foundation for language learning that encourages and enables them to apply their skills to learning further languages, developing a strong understanding of the English language, facilitating future study and opening opportunities to study and work in other countries in the future. The French scheme of work supports pupils to meet the National curriculum end of Key stage 2 attainment targets (there are no Key stage 1 attainment targets for Languages).

### At the end of Foundation:

French curriculum begins in Year 3

### At the end of Key Stage 1:

French curriculum begins in Year 3

### At the end of Key Stage 2:

The children will understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources. They will discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied.

The children will 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.

They will also be able to write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt.

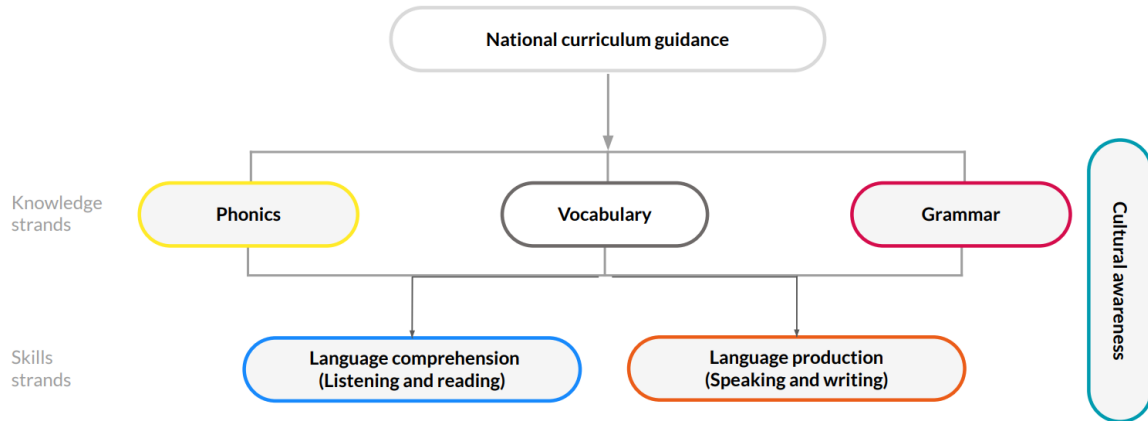
## Implementation:

Our French scheme of work has been designed as a spiral curriculum with the following key principles in mind:

- Cyclical: Pupils revisit key vocabulary and grammar concepts again and again,
- Increasing in depth: Each time vocabulary or grammar learning is revisited, it is covered with greater depth and
- Prior knowledge: Upon returning to each area, prior knowledge is utilised so pupils can build on previous foundations, rather than starting again.

Our French scheme of work is designed with three knowledge strands that run throughout our units with knowledge building cumulatively. These are: Phonics, Vocabulary and Grammar. This knowledge can then be applied within our skills strands, which also run throughout each unit in the scheme: Language comprehension (Listening and reading) and Language production (Speaking and writing).

Our scheme of work focuses on developing what is termed 'language detective skills' and developing an understanding of French grammar, and key vocabulary rather than on committing to memory vast amounts of French vocabulary. Pronunciation is emphasised early on using the Mouth mechanics videos to support pupils with phoneme pronunciation in French. Differentiated guidance is available for every lesson to ensure that lessons can be accessed and enjoyed by all. In order to help pupils, retain their French learning, we provide information about how to incorporate French into the classroom environment every day in our 'During the week' sections.



**Assessment**

- The impact of the scheme is monitored continuously through both formative and summative assessment.
- Each lesson includes guidance to support teachers in assessing pupils against the learning objectives.

**Cultural Capital**

Enrichment is an essential part of the Wilbarston French Curriculum which provides pupils with discrete time to focus and deepen their learning, they provide opportunities for new experiences as well as nurturing and developing a thirst for learning.

- This will involve an immersive day where the children experience going to and running a French cafe

**Career Professional Development**

- Strong subject knowledge is vital for staff to be able to deliver a highly effective languages curriculum. Each unit of lessons includes multiple teacher videos to develop subject knowledge and support ongoing CPD.
- Lessons include a section entitled, 'Teacher knowledge - language points' to explain key grammar and other details to the teacher before the lesson, together with a Key vocabulary and pronunciation presentation with sound files to demonstrate the correct pronunciation.
- lessons also include sound files, supporting teachers who are less confident with their own pronunciation to deliver the lesson and support the children's learning.
- Subject lead ensures that staff are able to access these and are confident delivering the subject

**French Curriculum Overview:**

Year 3/4	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Cycle A			French greetings	French adjectives of colour, size and shape	French playground games – numbers and age	In a French classroom
Cycle B			Portraits – describing in French	Clothes – getting dressed in French	French numbers, calendars and birthdays	French food

Year 5/6	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Cycle A			French monster pets	Shopping in France	Verbs in a week	Meet my French family
Cycle B			French sport and the Olympics	In my French house	Planning a French holiday	Visiting a town in France