



Modern Foreign Languages (French)

Intent

At Mendlesham Primary School, we believe that learning a modern foreign language broadens horizons, develops curiosity and helps children understand the wider world. Through our inclusive curriculum, including opportunities for pupils within Mulberry to access and engage with language learning at an appropriate level, we aim to develop confidence, communication and cultural understanding for all pupils.

We are committed to ensuring that all pupils, including those with SEND and disadvantaged pupils, access an ambitious French curriculum that enables them to be successful language learners. Through learning French, pupils develop positive attitudes towards languages, diversity and different cultures whilst gaining knowledge, skills and understanding that will prepare them for future language learning.

Through our French curriculum, pupils learn to:

- Understand and respond to spoken French.
- Speak with increasing confidence and accuracy.
- Read and write simple French using familiar vocabulary and sentence structures.
- Develop accurate pronunciation and intonation.
- Communicate ideas, feelings and information in another language.
- Appreciate similarities and differences between languages and cultures.
- Develop curiosity, resilience and confidence when communicating.

We aim for pupils to leave here with a love of language learning, an appreciation of cultural diversity and the confidence to continue their language studies at secondary school and beyond.

Implementation

French is taught throughout Key Stage 2 using the Kapow scheme of work, which provides a carefully sequenced curriculum that develops knowledge, skills and understanding progressively over time.

Curriculum planning takes account of the school's mixed-age structure, ensuring knowledge is revisited, deepened and connected over time so that pupils make sustained progress regardless of the point at which they enter the cycle. Content is carefully mapped to avoid unnecessary repetition whilst ensuring full curriculum coverage.

Pupils develop their skills through listening, speaking, reading and writing activities. Lessons are practical, engaging and interactive, making use of songs, rhymes, stories, games, discussion and digital resources to support learning. Native speaker pronunciation is used regularly to ensure pupils hear authentic language models and develop accurate pronunciation.

Oracy is central to language learning. Pupils are regularly provided with opportunities to listen carefully, practise pronunciation, engage in conversation, answer questions, perform, present and communicate ideas using increasingly sophisticated vocabulary and sentence structures. Speaking and listening activities support pupils in becoming confident communicators both in French and in English.

Subject-specific vocabulary is explicitly taught, modelled and revisited throughout the curriculum. Pupils progressively acquire and apply a growing bank of vocabulary organised around familiar themes and contexts. Vocabulary is regularly revisited to support long-term retention and fluency.

Adaptive teaching ensures that all pupils can access and achieve within the French curriculum. Appropriate scaffolds, modelling, visual prompts and additional support are used to remove barriers whilst maintaining ambition and high expectations for all learners.

Assessment is ongoing and informed through observation, discussion, practical activities and pupils' spoken and written outcomes. This enables teachers to identify misconceptions, adapt teaching and ensure pupils build secure foundations for future learning.

Impact

By the time pupils leave Bacton Primary School, they will:

- Understand and respond to spoken French.
- Communicate using familiar vocabulary, phrases and sentence structures.
- Read and write simple French with increasing confidence.
- Demonstrate accurate pronunciation of taught vocabulary.
- Understand key aspects of French language and culture.
- Show curiosity, respect and appreciation for different languages and cultures.
- Be well prepared for the next stage of language learning.

Pupils will develop confidence in speaking and listening, using French to communicate ideas and respond to others. They will be able to talk about their learning, recall previously taught vocabulary and apply language knowledge in increasingly independent ways.

Pupil voice will demonstrate enjoyment of language learning and an appreciation of how learning another language helps them understand the wider world. Children will recognise the value of communicating with people from different cultures and backgrounds and understand how language learning broadens opportunities and experiences.

Through high-quality language teaching, pupils will develop the knowledge, confidence and cultural awareness needed to continue learning languages successfully as they move into secondary education.