



**Showing our love through kindness,
determination and curiosity; strengthening
ourselves and our community.**

French Subject Statement

Intent

The French curriculum at Long Wittenham CE Primary School is designed to enable our pupils to make substantial progress in one language, i.e., French. The learning of a foreign language can provide a valuable educational, social, and cultural experience for pupils, offering them a foundation for further language learning beyond KS2 and potentially equipping pupils to study and work in other countries.

Our objective is to enhance motivation, curiosity, and confidence in language acquisition while fostering a profound appreciation for diverse cultures. Through this, we aim to deepen individuals' understanding of the world and provide them with fresh perspectives, encouraging not only an appreciation for their own culture but also for those of others. The aims of our French curriculum align with our core values of kindness, curiosity, and determination.

We aim for children to develop proficient listening skills in French, actively participating in conversations to demonstrate comprehension of fundamental vocabulary. They will explore language patterns and phonetics through songs and rhymes, reinforcing connections between spelling, sound, and meaning. Engaging in dialogues, the children will ask and answer questions, express opinions, seek clarification, and communicate using familiar vocabulary and basic language structures.

Furthermore, students will focus on refining pronunciation and intonation to ensure clarity during oral presentations and reading aloud. They will confidently present ideas to various audiences, demonstrating effective oral communication skills. Additionally, students will demonstrate careful reading comprehension of words, phrases, and simple texts, and engage with stories, songs, poems, and rhymes in French.

Expanding their vocabulary, students will understand new words encountered in written materials, utilizing dictionaries as needed. They will demonstrate their understanding by writing phrases from memory and creatively constructing new sentences to express ideas clearly. Additionally, students will describe people, places, things, and actions both orally and in writing.

The students will grasp foundational concepts of grammar, including gender forms and verb conjugations. They will comprehend key features and patterns of the language, applying them to construct sentences while recognizing similarities and differences from English.

Implementation

In Key Stage One (KS1), French instruction involves the use of online resources to prepare students for more formal language learning in KS2. Typically, writing tasks are not expected at this stage. Instead, children primarily engage in learning basic French vocabulary through interactive games and songs, focusing on concepts such as colors, numbers, and basic greetings like "bonjour" and "au revoir." KS1 students predominantly learn through playful activities such as games, songs, and creative endeavors like art and coloring.

In keystage one children are introduced to basic vocabulary such as numbers, colours and greetings.

In Key Stage Two (KS2), students transition to a more structured approach to French language learning, acquiring key vocabulary and developing an understanding of phrases and questions.

In Year 3/4 (Year A), topics include:

- Greetings
- Numbers
- All about me
- Food
- Role play
- Pets

In Year 5/6 (Year A), topics include:

- Food
- Eating out
- Animals
- "Grand Monstre Vert" (a French book)
- Hobbies
- Story assessment

Throughout their time at Long Wittenham, students have the opportunity to explore various topics in French, reinforcing key vocabulary and language structures. They develop skills in both spoken and written French, expressing themselves using familiar phrases and sentences as they progress through upper Key Stage Two.

French instruction is delivered through weekly, subject-specific lessons led by a visiting language teacher and a Higher-Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA). Each academic year, three units of study are completed.

A typical unit of work in French follows this sequence:

Introduction to core vocabulary through listening, reading, and speaking activities, with an emphasis on repetition and phonics to encourage accurate pronunciation and intonation.

Sequential lessons to introduce key grammatical structures, following a logical progression outlined in the knowledge organiser.

Activities to enhance listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, incorporating games, songs, authentic texts, and recordings.

Opportunities for students to ask and answer simple questions, forming phrases and sentences to express themselves orally and in writing.

Additionally, cross-curricular lessons in French are integrated where relevant to enrich students' learning experiences across the curriculum.

The impact of our French curriculum will be measured through ongoing teacher assessment with a view to an informal assessment at the end of each unit. This will focus on students' understanding of spoken and written French and their ability to respond and express themselves orally or in writing.