

Cavendish Church of England Primary School



French Policy (MFL)

Signed on behalf of the Governing Body	
Signed: Head teacher	
Date:	Autumn 2023
Date to be Reviewed:	Autumn 2025

Our Vision

In our school our Christian vision shapes all we do.

Challenge, Creativity, Compassion: Create a pure heart in me – Psalm 51:10

Our School Vision Statement reflects this commitment as children and staff are taught to challenge inequality, prejudice, bullying and harm; to respond with compassion and sensitivity to individual need and to respect the rights of all individuals to be safe and nurtured within God's world.

We encourage children to respond creatively to internal and external challenges in life, with compassion for others, including consideration for creation and the planet itself. Thus we show how to live justly and with a pure heart, reflecting the teachings of Jesus and God's love within our school environment.

Intent

At Cavendish Church of England Primary School, it is our aim to provide a French curriculum that introduces pupils to a different culture and allows them to further develop their understanding of the world.

Within the French curriculum we challenge ourselves to communicate in another language while reflecting on our own. We consider the impact language has on our creativity and different cultures across the world. Children learn how language and meaning are created and used to reach out to others around us. Studying MFL supports children's understanding of different cultures and communities and so extends their understanding and compassion for others.

Implementation

Starting in the Foundation Years, children begin to learn about the differences and similarities between different societies and will learn simple French nursery rhymes and songs, moving on to rote learning of key phrases in KS1. On reaching KS2, children will begin a programme which covers pronunciation, vocabulary, grammar and language learning as well as key facts about life in France. Our aim is to provide a mix of oral and written experience in order to develop children's confidence in speaking as well as their ability to read and write French. By following a dedicated programme of incremental steps across KS2, we plan to steadily build children's ability and confidence in French, ensuring that all the requirements laid down by the National Curriculum and the EYFS Framework are covered.

Through a structured curriculum, teachers will build an encouraging and enthusiastic learning environment where all children are able to achieve. Although there is no requirement in the National Curriculum to introduce French at Foundation and Key Stage 1, we have planned to familiarise children with the vocabulary of another language. In LKS2 and UKS2, the French curriculum will follow a two-year rolling programme to ensure broad coverage.

The French curriculum is implemented in the following ways:

- In Foundation Stage and KS1, a half termly song will be introduced to allow rote learning of key vocabulary and pronunciation.
- In KS2, children will receive a weekly 40-minute dedicated French lesson based on the scheme by Rising Stars.
- LKS2 follow a two-year rolling programme based on Rising Stars French 1 and 2 with adaptations for extension and support to promote learning for children of all abilities.
- UKS2 follow a two-year rolling programme based on Rising Stars French 3 and 4, again with adaptations for extension and support provided in each lesson.
- Each lesson will revisit previous learning before building in new knowledge and will encompass new vocabulary, key grammar points, pronunciation, spelling and reading /writing. Some lessons will also teach key knowledge about France.
- Children will have the opportunity to rehearse their spoken French in every lesson, both in partner work and in response to modelling. This will improve pronunciation and build each child's confidence.

- French dictionaries are used in UKS2 and children learn how and why they are different to those they have previously encountered.
- Teachers use precise questioning in class to check conceptual knowledge and skills. Questioning also supports teachers in regular assessment, identifying those children with gaps in their learning or those who show great progress.

Impact

Our vision is that all children will develop an interest in languages and will gain the foundation skills needed to develop their learning further in KS3. Studying MFL supports our understanding of different cultures and communities, developing our understanding and compassion for others. A wider impact is that children will be able to apply their skills should they travel to any French speaking countries in the world.

Through providing a hands-on, engaging French curriculum for all, children will develop a secure foundation of skills to develop their learning further in the following key stages and the wider world. We aim to encourage a lifelong love of learning languages.

The impact of the French curriculum will be measured through:

- Teacher assessment in lessons, through observation of conversational skills and marking recorded work.
- Digitally recorded versions of conversations.
- Digital assessment tasks completed by child at the end of each unit.
- Peer assessment of partner work.
- Simple quizzes at the end of each unit.
- Informal discussions between French subject leader and class teachers – including during book looks.
- Progression is evidenced over time through Rising Stars analysis.
- Low stake quizzes are used in lessons to support and assess long-term memory of key knowledge
- PITA assessment on Target Tracker each half term to monitor progress over time.

Enrichment

The school supports the application of key language skills by organising a French café run by KS2 in the Summer Term, alternately serving 'crêpes' and 'croissants'. Within Christian festivals such as Shrove Tuesday, the festival of Mardi Gras is explored.

Cultural capital

As well as studying language, the study of French geographical regions contributes to cultural capital through an appreciation of the landmarks of Paris, and the contribution of French speaking peoples to art and science such as Marie Curie and Monet. Children develop an awareness of how French language informs our own vocabulary, including terminology for food.

Our French curriculum has been carefully selected to provide a rigorous programme with weekly small steps helping children to retain key knowledge. Through learning about other cultures, children develop an awareness of British values and how these compare and differ from those in France.

All French lessons will provide children with opportunities to link to one or more aspects of the school vision of challenge, creativity and compassion.

Inclusion

The school provides a broad and balanced curriculum to all children regardless of ability or background. Lesson activities are differentiated to ensure all children are able to access their learning. Children with SEND are supported in a variety ways including: word mats, writing frames, differentiated challenges, altered resources and equipment, visual aids, specific questioning, pictorial representations, adult support and peer support. To support children who show great progress in their learning, teachers use different open-ended questions and statements as well as differentiated follow-up challenges.

Our work on other world cultures supports diversity and equal opportunities of all. Access to the curriculum does not exclude children on the grounds of family finances.

Cross curricular links

At Cavendish Church of England Primary School, we recognise the importance of learning in a cross-curricular manner and children have the opportunity to learn about Christianity as a global religion as well as singing a French carol at the Christmas service. Furthermore, learning the grammar required to speak and write French supports and reinforces the children's existing knowledge of grammar required at the end of KS2.

English

By studying French, children further experience the role of grammar in the structure of language. They apply their knowledge of key grammatical vocabulary and learn about grammatical rules which apply to the French language. Word origins are explored and links made to vocabulary used in Britain today.

Maths

Ordinal and cardinal numbers are revisited through French language and number games. Days of the week and months of the year also learnt in LKS2 and telling the time is practiced in UKS2.

Science

Our featured scientists supporting the science curriculum include a range of nationalities, time periods and genders.

RE and Collective Worship

French is used to promote an understanding that religions, including Christianity, are global. Within collective worship children learn hymns and carols from other languages include French, German, Polish and Swahili.

History

French cultural history is considered through its application to studied History topics, for example, the role of France in World War 2, the role of the Normans and William the Conqueror in Early British History.

Geography

We ensure children understand that French, like English, is a global language, and ensure our cultural references include South America as well as Europe. Children study the capital of France, Paris.

Art

Our long term art planning includes a study of Monet and the concept of impressionism, as well as a study of applied art through the Bayeux Tapestry.

Music

Music is the key medium through which French is taught in EYFS and KS1. French composers feature in our music long term planning, and children learn songs in different languages as part of collective worship. Simple compositional pieces such as Frere Jacques are taught for wind instruments (ocarina and recorder).