

FRENCH



Our curriculum Champions have been created to inspire and motivate the children to find out more and be interested in French. He is seen around school on displays and in curriculum assemblies.

Intent

At Cawston Grange, we believe that learning another language enriches pupils' education and fosters curiosity about the wider world. Language learning helps pupils to deepen their understanding of other cultures, appreciate diversity, and develop communication skills that prepare them for life in a global society. French is the core modern foreign language taught in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6). In addition, pupils enjoy opportunities to experience other world languages and cultures during special events such as European Day of Languages and International Mother Tongue Day.

Implementation

Year Groups: Years 3-6 - Time Allocation: Years 3-5: 45 minutes to 1 hour per week
Year 6: 30-40 minutes per week - Staffing: The Languages Lead (Specialist Teacher) delivers lessons in Years 3-5. Class teachers and/or teaching assistants deliver Year 6 lessons, using plans and resources created by the Languages Lead. - Scheme of Work:

Written by the Languages Lead, loosely based on Catherine Cheater's scheme.

Structured for clear progression and continuity across KS2. - Additional Enrichment: Special days such as European Day of Languages & International Mother Tongue Day
Occasional taster sessions in other world language.

Children are introduced to some simple French vocabulary in KS1.



Our teaching emphasises depth over breadth, focusing on small amounts of vocabulary that can be reused in multiple situations and topics. Lessons are active, engaging, and inclusive. Key features include: - Introducing a few new words or phrases at a time, gradually increasing with age - Encouraging children to recombine known language in new contexts. - Using sentence builders from Year 4 onwards to support speaking and writing. - Embedding songs, games, stories, role-play, and interactive activities. - Frequent use of spoken French in class routines to build confidence. - Developing phonics knowledge to support accurate pronunciation and listening. - Using poems to learn longer chunks of language, especially poems/rhymes learnt by young French children. - Using culture and cultural events to learn about French and French-speaking people

Phonics and Vocabulary Progression

Year 3 Core topics such as colours and numbers are used to introduce the high-frequency sounds of French, helping pupils to distinguish and pronounce key phonemes.

From Year 4 onwards: A more explicit focus on French phonics supports accurate pronunciation, reading, and spelling. - Vocabulary is carefully chosen for usefulness and reusability, enabling children to manipulate and personalise language rather than just memorise isolated words. Encouraged to learn in chunks, rather than single words.

Vocabulary and topics are chosen to support developing language ability and with the interest of the age of the children; also it is chosen to support enjoyment of language learning, whilst at the same time,

Impact

Assessment is both ongoing and formative, supporting progress and informing future teaching. - Ongoing Assessment: Teachers assess informally through observation, questioning, and short spoken or written tasks. - Self-Assessment: Pupils complete structured self-assessments three times a year, reflecting on their progress in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. - Teacher Judgements: These are informal and with the self-assessments together inform the end-of-year reports. - Transition: Records are shared with receiving teachers and secondary schools to support continuity (when requested)

Cultural Enrichment

At Cawston Grange Primary School, we believe that language learning is closely linked to understanding and appreciating other cultures. Our curriculum incorporates cultural enrichment to broaden pupils' horizons and make language learning meaningful. Key features include:

- Celebrations and Festivals: Exploring French traditions such as Bastille Day, Christmas markets, and seasonal festivals, helping pupils understand cultural context and vocabulary.
- European Day of Languages: Whole-school activities that introduce pupils to greetings, songs, and customs from across Europe, fostering curiosity and respect for linguistic diversity.
- International Mother Tongue Day: Opportunities for pupils to celebrate the languages spoken in their families and communities, including sharing stories, songs, and basic phrases.
- Cross-Curricular Links: Integration of cultural elements into other subjects (e.g., French art, geography, music), enabling pupils to see language in real-world contexts.
- Authentic Resources: Use of French stories, songs, videos, and digital media to provide exposure to native language and culture.
- Pupil-Led Sharing: Encouraging children to present and teach simple cultural and language elements to peers, promoting confidence and mutual respect.

This approach ensures that language learning at Cawston Grange Primary School is not only about vocabulary and grammar but also about developing cultural awareness, empathy, and a love of global communication.