



'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16

MFL (French) Curriculum Purpose and Rationale



'At Hawkesley, we say to our pupils to *'let your light shine.'* (Matthew 5:16). In order to do this, we provide a knowledge rich curriculum. The bible says, 'For wisdom is better than rubies...' Proverb 8:11. We believe that through the accumulation and application of knowledge, pupils are equipped to experience, *'life in all its fullness'* (John 10:10). '

Taken from the Hawkesley Curriculum Vision Statement



Curriculum Purpose: Why study French (MFL)?

Why do learners at Hawkesley Church Primary Academy need to study French (MFL)?

At Hawkesley Church Primary Academy we believe learning a modern foreign language is a vital part to ensuring that pupils are prepared for the world around them. We provide our pupils with an international dimension to their learning which enables them to learn about different countries and cultures and empowers them to see the world as responsible global citizens. We have chosen to teach French as our Modern Foreign Language (MFL) across Hawkesley as this ensures pupils have a good foundation in the subject before moving into the next phase of their education. As some pupils in our school have not had the chance to travel abroad or meet people from a variety of cultures, through studying French, they will develop an understanding of different cultures around the world as well as respect and acceptance of these cultures. It also allows pupils to develop their written, auditory and verbal skills.

French is the second most widely spoken language in the world after English. French is the official language (or one of the official languages) in 29 countries. English, for comparison's sake, is the official language or one of the official languages in 45 countries.

What are the aims for the French (MFL) curriculum?

By the time pupils leave Hawkesley they should be able to:

- Listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding
- Explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words
- Engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help
- Speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures
- Develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases
- Present ideas and information orally to a range of audience
- Read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing
- Appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language
- Broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including



through using a dictionary

- Write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly
- Describe people, places, things and actions orally and in writing
- Understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied, including (where relevant): feminine, masculine and neuter forms and the conjugation of high-frequency verbs; key features and patterns of the language; how to apply these, for instance, to build sentences; and how these differ from or are similar to English.

The National Curriculum

Aims

The national curriculum for Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) aims to ensure that all pupils:

Key Stage 2

- Understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources
- 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
- Can write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt
- Discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied.

All pupils will be expected to achieve their full potential by encouraging high expectations and excellent standards in their modern foreign language learning - the ultimate aim being that pupils will feel willing and able to continue studying languages beyond key stage 2.

Which values underpin the curriculum content?

Respect

Pupils learn to be respectful when communicating with different people without showing ignorance and arrogance towards other languages and cultures.

Perseverance



Through the curriculum pupils will demonstrate perseverance as they learn, explore and develop a new language.

Community

Pupils learn about wider world studying other cultures, customs and countries

Wisdom

Pupils develop wider knowledge gaining skills to speak in another language.

How are British Values taught from French?

The MFL curriculum actively promotes British Values, by promoting the tolerance of cultural values and traditions of other countries. Through the curriculum pupils are appreciating other countries, especially France as the pupils are learning to speak French, they are also encouraged to reflect on other cultures and ways of life and embrace socio-cultural and economic differences and contexts. This ensures pupils make better connections between countries and societies. This in turn, emphasises the need for tolerance and justice, and through their studies, our pupils come to value the rule of law and democratic systems that European countries and countries further afield enjoy despite the varied customs, festivals and national characteristics that makes every society so unique.

Which links to careers can be made within the French curriculum?

1. Translation
2. Interpreter
3. Editor
4. Tour guide
5. Flight attendant
6. Resort or hotel staff
7. Consul, ambassador or diplomat.
8. French teacher



Curriculum Rationale: Why study MFL (French) in this way?

Why has the specific knowledge been selected?

We offer a relevant, broad and vibrant foreign languages curriculum that will inspire and excite our pupils using a wide variety of topics and themes following the Language Angels scheme. This high-quality language education fosters pupils, curiosity and deepens their understanding of the world. It enables pupils to express their ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and in writing. It also provides opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes learn new ways of thinking and read great literature in the original language. Learning a language provides the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries.

The scaffolding of language is such that pupils will be able to communicate in French to French speaking citizens.

Why is it taught in the order that it is?

At Hawkesley the four key language learning skills; **listening, speaking, reading** and **writing** will be taught and all necessary **grammar** will be covered in an age-appropriate way across KS2. This will enable pupils to use and apply their learning in a variety of contexts, laying down solid foundations for future language learning and also helping the children improve overall attainment in other subject areas. In addition, the children will be taught how to look up and research language they are unsure of and they will have a bank of reference materials to help them with their spoken and written tasks.

We will start with basic nouns and article level and will teach pupils how to formulate short phrases. By the time pupils reach the next stage they will be exposed to much longer texts and will be encouraged to formulate their own, more personalised responses based on a much wider bank of vocabulary, linguistic structures and grammatical knowledge. They will be able to create longer pieces of spoken and written language and are encouraged to use a variety of conjunctions, adverbs, adjectives, opinions and justifications.



How are French (MFL) lessons delivered at Hawkesley?

French will be delivered across years 3, 4, 5 and 6 during a weekly session by the teachers who will be following the 'La Jolie Ronde' scheme.

What is the impact?

Pupils will continuously build on their previous knowledge as they progress in their modern foreign language learning journey through the primary phase. Previous language will be recycled, revised, recalled and consolidated whenever possible and appropriate to ensure pupils know and remember more.

Teachers will use the **long-term planning** documents provided to ensure the correct units are being taught to the correct classes at each stage of the scholastic year. **Short-term planning** is also provided in the form of **unit overviews** (covering the learning targets for each 6-week unit) and **individual lesson plans** laying out the learning aims and intentions of each individual lesson within a unit. These planning documents ensure that teachers know what to teach and how to teach it in each lesson, across whole units and across each scholastic term.

Pupils will be aware of their own learning goals and progression as each unit offers a pupils friendly overview so that all pupils can review their own learning at the start and at the end of each unit. They will know and will be able to articulate if they have or have not met their learning objectives and can keep their unit learning intention sheets and unit core vocabulary sheets as a record of what they have learnt from unit to unit and from year to year.



MFL (French) Curriculum Aims (end-points)

What are the aims, end-points, of specific stages of the curriculum?

By the end of Year 6 pupils should be able to:

- Listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding
- Explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words
- Engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help
- Speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures
- Develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases
- Present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences
- Read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing
- Appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language
- Broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary
- Write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly
- Describe people, places, things and actions orally and in writing
- Understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied, including (where relevant): feminine, masculine and neuter forms and the conjugation of high-frequency verbs; key features and patterns of the language; how to apply these, for instance, to build sentences; and how these differ from or are similar to English.