



**Wood End Park  
Academy**

# **French**

**Subject Policies**

## Version History

Version	Date	Review due
1	19 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	

### INTENT

Wood End Park Academy is a diverse multi-cultural school. Many of our pupils are bilingual or multilingual, with a plethora of language knowledge in each and every classroom. French allows us to further enhance our pupils' existing language skills and find patterns between French, English and their own languages. We promote an appreciation of France by celebrating Bastille Day annually, allowing our children to explore French customs. We prioritise learning patterns, thought processes and grammatical structures in a way that progresses from simple words and phrases to full sentences. We offer pupils an opportunity to put their new-found language skills into practice through our link with a French primary school.

### RATIONALE

Language learning enables young people to express their ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, which is essential, practical knowledge for all global citizens in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. More than this, it is about children exploring the relationship between language and identity, about developing an international outlook and growing into an enhanced understanding of the world and their place within it. At WEPA, we believe strongly in the benefit of this and teach weekly French lessons throughout Key Stage 2. Our language learning enriches the curriculum, providing excitement, enjoyment and challenge for pupils, helping to create enthusiastic learners and to develop positive attitudes to language learning throughout life. Pupils enjoy taking an active part in language lessons: they join in with singing and respond to stories; they create mimes and role-play, imitating accurate intonation and pronunciation. The skills, knowledge and understanding gained make a major contribution to the development of children's oracy and literacy, resulting in gains across their learning.

### AIMS

Through the study of French, pupils will:

- 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
- 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.

*(DfE KS2 Programme of Study)*

Additionally, WEPA's aims of teaching French are for pupils to:

- foster an interest in learning another language
- become aware that language has a structure, and that this structure differs from one language to another
- gain enjoyment, pride and a sense of achievement
- explore and apply strategies to improve their learning
- explore their own cultural identities and those of others
- work with pupils from French-speaking countries

### **FRENCH KNOWLEDGE**

Each unit requires pupils to obtain, retain and recycle language knowledge; the key knowledge of the unit is noted on the unit overview. WEPA encourages children to build their knowledge through drawing on prior vocabulary, grammar and phonic knowledge. Use of knowledge must be promoted and modelled in the answers to the learning questions and quizzes.

### **FRENCH VOCABULARY**

Each unit has a list of key vocabulary and grammar concepts that are noted on the unit overview and in Knowledge Organisers. Vocabulary must be promoted through use of repetition, games, on slides and in quizzes. Children are expected to find ways of communicating what they want to say by manipulating the vocabulary they have learnt and to write this accurately, paying particular attention to accents. They must also broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words introduced into familiar written material, including identifying cognates and using a dictionary.

### **FRENCH QUIZZES**

Each unit of French will have a quiz that needs to be completed. This will assess the pupils' knowledge of that particular unit. The children will complete the quiz every week and more questions will be added as they learn more knowledge. These can be submitted online and completed on Google Classroom.

### **CROSS-CURRICULAR FRENCH OPPORTUNITIES**

Pupils should practise and apply the skills, knowledge and understanding acquired through French lessons to other areas of the curriculum. Within French, children should also be given the opportunity to apply skills from other subjects:

English - listening, speaking, reading, writing and grammar

Maths - counting, conducting surveys, money/currency, negative numbers

Science – the body, weather, healthy & unhealthy food, animal habitats, the solar system

PSHE - working in pairs and groups, giving and justifying opinions

History – Bastille Day, places in town (now and then)

Geography - learning about where France is in the world, French-speaking countries and intercultural customs and traditions

Music – learning a variety of rhymes and songs in the target language, French composers, musical genres

Art - colours, portraits, Impressionist artists

ICT – pattern recognition.

A language enrichment day in Key Stages 1 and 2 is organised on an annual basis. Children are immersed in linguistic and cultural activities for one day with appropriate links to their learning in other subjects.

Teachers are encouraged to use French whenever possible - completing the register or describing the weather every day in French is a perfect way to facilitate this.

## **CURRICULUM**

Learning a language is compulsory for every pupil in Key Stage 2. WEPA's KS2 scheme of work is designed to fulfil the requirements of the KS2 Programme of Study (below) and to provide learning experiences that engage, enthuse, motivate and challenge all of our learners. Schools are free to determine how to teach and fulfil the Programme of Study's requirements – at WEPA, we use Rising Stars "Euro Stars", which is a complete programme for specialist and non-specialist teachers. This programme uses whiteboard software, animations, activity banks and worksheets to study a range of units (1 per half term), which build together to ensure progression. We also add our own resources to those already provided. Children learn accurate pronunciation from activities, games and songs all voiced by native French speakers. The Overview scheme of work is available on our website.

KS2 Programme of Study:

Pupils should be taught 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: feminine, masculine and plural 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.

## **PLANNING**

French lesson plans are produced by the specialist French teacher/Subject Lead and are in line with the school's planning policy. All topics follow the French overview created. For each unit, vocabulary, knowledge goals, resources, attainment targets, assessment opportunities and support are included in the planning. Lessons will open with a learning question that children can find answers to in the lesson; this will be answered at the end of the lesson (e.g. How do I order food in a café? How do I give my opinion of music? How do I describe animals?) French plans will have a balance of listening, speaking, reading, writing and grammar activities.

## **PUPIL BOOKS**

Pupils' books should show evidence of language learning. Next steps from marking need to give children an opportunity further develop a language skill.

## **DISPLAYS AND CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENTS**

- There are two shared displays for French and a small area dedicated in the classroom.
- These displays could also contain questions for the children to ponder.
- Appropriate vocabulary should be displayed throughout the unit- added to as new vocabulary is taught to the children.
- High quality examples of children's work could be displayed with personal reflective comments.
- Extra resources can be borrowed from the subject lead to make the French to be studied engaging to children.

## **ENRICHMENT**

We add to our French lessons by holding an annual Bastille Day celebration - each year group has a different focus (eg Paris, French food and fashion, Tour de France, French artists and Seurat, Rousseau...) There is also a weekly after-school French club where children choose what they would like to do, embed their class learning and take part in activities such as baking and pétanque.

## **ROLE OF SUBJECT LEADER**

The Subject Leader should be responsible for improving the standards of teaching and learning in French through:

- Monitoring and evaluating pupil progress;

- Provision of French;
- The quality of the Learning Environment;
- Taking the lead in policy development;
- Auditing and supporting colleagues in their CPD;
- Purchasing and organising resources;
- Keeping up to date with changes in the subject.

### **REMOTE LEARNING**

Any work created for online learning must be accessible to the children and activities adapted so that they can access them at home. The French specialist/ Subject Lead records videos of lessons so that children can still use their language skills and hear accurate pronunciation.

# L'Étoile d'Excellence Checklist

- ✓ I can listen carefully, understand and respond to spoken language.
- ✓ I can ask and answer questions, give my opinions and respond to those of others.
- ✓ I can read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing.
- ✓ I can repeat and say some words/sentences from memory.
- ✓ I can copy and write some words/sentences from memory.
- ✓ I can work independently by adapting what I know to construct new sentences.
- ✓ I can understand and apply basic grammar rules.
- ✓ I can recognise key similarities and differences between English and French grammatical patterns.
- ✓ I can recognise sound patterns and pronounce words accurately.
- ✓ I can appreciate aspects of French culture and compare/contrast them to my own.

