

French Intent, Implementation and Impact Statement

At St Paulinus, our Curriculum intent is driven by our Mission Statement, “To Love one another as I have loved you.”

We believe that our shared vision and aims for our curriculum can be summarised using an acronym for **love**, which is at the heart of what we do:

Learn

Opportunities

Value

Experiences

These ‘Love Values’ are central to our commitment to ensuring that all pupils receive the best possible education and can be visible across all curriculum areas, including French.

Intent – What do we aim for?

At St Paulinus, the intention of our French Curriculum is to promote a love for lifelong language learning. It is intended that when our pupils leave St Paulinus, they will not only have the foundations for successful language learning at secondary school but also the natural curiosity and confidence to explore other countries, cultures and languages throughout their lives. We believe that through our teaching of French we are able to foster pupils’ interest, understanding and respect for the wider world.

We aim to introduce the learning of French in an enjoyable and creative manner whilst supporting children in embedding the essential skills. The teaching of French at St Paulinus intends to equip pupils with the skills to be able to:

- Understand and respond to authentic spoken French
- Speak in French with increasing confidence and fluency
- Write in French for a practical purpose using a variety of grammatical structures
- Read and understand the French language used in a variety of books and poetry

Implementation – What does French look like at St Paulinus?

At St Paulinus, our love of language learning begins in the Foundation Stage. Staff are enthusiastic about languages and enjoy sharing ways of saying hello and goodbye in different cultures. Children are also introduced to a range of rhymes and songs and enjoy sharing simple stories such as the Hungry Caterpillar and We are going on a Bear Hunt in French. Children take great pleasure in comparing recognisable words and phrases. As pupils progress through KS1, we introduce key skills such as how to say your name and count to 10 in French using songs and finger rhymes. Throughout school, there are signs displayed to immerse children in the language. For example; signs on the bathroom doors and in the lunch hall. We believe that this helps to make French more meaningful for our children. The introduction of languages in the Early Years and KS1 provides children with an exciting and engaging start to language learning and prepares them for their journey into KS2 French.

In Key Stage 2 at St Paulinus, French is delivered to all pupils using the French Primary Project. This is a robust and progressive scheme which enables teachers, with varying levels of French knowledge,

to deliver quality lessons. French is taught once a week in a discrete 30-minute session but teachers continue to engage creatively with children through French songs and story time at other points in their weekly timetable. There are 6 modules to be covered throughout the year; each module contains 5 lessons and a specific finger rhyme and song to enhance the learning. There is a focus on grammatical understanding and many comparisons are made to the work pupils complete as part of their punctuation and grammar work in English lessons.

After completing a module of learning each half term, children complete an end of unit assessment which is in line with the national curriculum aims. This enables teachers to identify the progress of their pupils in French; recognise those children who require further support or challenge and respond appropriately.

Impact - What is the impact of our approach to French at St Paulinus?

As a result of our approach to language learning in EYFS and KS1, children enter KS2 already confident in their ability to count to 10 and greet people in French. Most importantly however, their early experiences mean that they have an enthusiasm for French and a curiosity to learn more. At St Paulinus, it is commonplace to hear children sharing songs and phrases they have learnt by heart and hear them spontaneously answer the register in a variety of languages.

As children progress through KS2, they continue to refine their command of the French language. They learn to speak with growing confidence; respond to the spoken and written word appropriately and write in grammatically correct sentences. Most significantly, they secure the foundations for a successful future of language learning because they have a respect for other cultures and an appreciation of how important it is to be able to communicate with people who speak another language. The impact of our enthusiastic, creative and progressive approach to French teaching is that children at St Paulinus love and value not only the French language but languages throughout the world.