



Benhall St Mary's C of E Primary School

Be the best you can be.

Let your light shine before others; that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven' - Matthew 5:16

French Policy

2024-2026

Intent

At Benhall St Mary's Primary School, we believe strongly in the benefits of learning a modern foreign language: language learning is fun, active, challenging, enjoyable and it leads to wider benefits across the curriculum, such as the development of literacy skills and to a greater understanding of themselves and others.

Aims

- **Language Proficiency:** Develop pupils' listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in French through a structured and progressive curriculum.
- **Cultural Awareness:** Foster an appreciation of French-speaking cultures to enhance pupils' understanding of global diversity.
- **Confidence and Communication:** Enable pupils to communicate effectively in French, building confidence in language use.
- **Linguistic Foundations:** Provide a strong foundation in phonics, vocabulary, and grammar to support long-term language learning.
- **Memory and Recall:** Ensure pupils retain knowledge through systematic revisiting of key language concepts.
- **Transferable Skills:** Equip pupils with strategies for language learning that can be applied to other subjects and future language study.

Implementation

French is taught weekly in Key Stage 2. French is taught on a mixed year group two-year cycle, so that children in Oaks and Woodlands do not repeat the same topics as a new year group joins their class at the end of the year. Our Long-term plan is organised around Language Angels. The scheme is comprehensive and robust and ensures for a progression of skills as the children progress through Years 3-6. This scheme can also be complemented with resources from other areas.

Key Stage 2

In Key Stage 2, French is taught through a structured curriculum that progressively builds pupils' skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

Lessons include:

- Phonics instruction to support accurate pronunciation and spelling.
- Regular vocabulary and grammar practice to develop sentence structure and comprehension.
- Interactive speaking and listening activities to build confidence in communication.
- Cultural elements such as traditions, geography, and famous figures from French-speaking countries.

- Retrieval practice to reinforce prior learning and aid long-term retention.

Equal Opportunities

French education at Benhall is inclusive and accessible to all pupils, regardless of background, ability, or special educational need. Lessons are differentiated where necessary to support all learners and ensure equal opportunities to develop language skills.

Participation and Engagement

We encourage active participation in French lessons through games, role-play, songs, and authentic materials such as French books and videos. Opportunities for cross-curricular links and whole-school events, such as French-themed days, further enrich pupils' language learning experience.

Benhall Blueprint

Curriculum Design

- Progressive Framework: Learning is sequenced to introduce key language concepts in a logical and structured manner.
- Phonics, Vocabulary, and Grammar: Lessons focus on clear progression in these areas to support pupils' ability to construct meaning in French.
- Cultural Understanding: Pupils explore French-speaking cultures to deepen their engagement with the language.

Modelling in French

- Accurate Pronunciation: Teachers model correct pronunciation and intonation to develop pupils' speaking skills.
- Sentence Structures: Demonstrating full sentences and grammatical structures to support language development.
- Peer Modelling: Encouraging pupils to practise conversations and presentations with classmates.
- Recall: Revisiting previously learned vocabulary and structures to strengthen long-term retention.

Pillars of Progression

- Phonics and Pronunciation: Ensuring pupils can decode words accurately and pronounce them correctly.

- **Vocabulary Development:** Expanding pupils' word banks to improve comprehension and expression.
- **Grammatical Understanding:** Teaching key structures progressively to enable accurate sentence construction.
- **Cultural Awareness:** Embedding cultural knowledge to enhance pupils' appreciation of French-speaking communities.

Developing Knowledge Types

- **Practical Knowledge:** Applying language skills in real-life contexts, such as conversations and role-plays.
- **Declarative Knowledge:** Understanding facts about French grammar, vocabulary, and cultural aspects.
- **Procedural Knowledge:** Developing the ability to form sentences, ask questions, and communicate effectively.

Assessment and Feedback

- **Formative Assessment:** Regular assessment through speaking, listening, reading, and writing activities.
- **Summative Assessment:** End-of-unit tasks to evaluate pupils' progress in key skills.
- **Retrieval Practice:** Incorporating spaced repetition and quizzes to reinforce long-term learning.
- **Constructive Feedback:** Providing specific guidance to help pupils improve their language proficiency.

Encouraging Lifelong Engagement

- **Promoting a Love for Languages:** Instilling enthusiasm for French through engaging lessons and cultural activities.
- **Transferable Skills:** Highlighting how language learning supports cognitive development, problem-solving, and communication.
- **Future Learning:** Preparing pupils for further language study at secondary school and beyond.

Impact

French assessment is ongoing to inform teachers with their planning, lesson activities and differentiation. French is monitored throughout KS2 using a variety of strategies such as lesson observations, summative assessment and pupil interviews.

Subject Leader

The subject leader ensures high-quality teaching, effective resource use, and strong pupil progress by:

- Providing professional development and curriculum guidance for staff.
- Monitoring lesson delivery, pupil progress, and curriculum impact.
- Ensuring resources and teaching strategies align with the latest language education research and best practices.