

Cheddington Combined School
Enjoying our learning...sharing our success



Subject Overview for French

Date reviewed: September 2024
Next review date: September 2025

French at Cheddington School

The National Curriculum (2013) for primary Modern Foreign Languages states, in part, that 'Language teaching should provide the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries.' The MFL provision at Cheddington Combined School is designed to reflect this, providing our children with an understanding of other cultures and languages, by creating a fun, safe and exciting learning environment for all pupils to flourish in.

INTENT

Cheddington Combined School has a passionate aim that all children will develop a genuine fascination for foreign languages, with a focus on French. Pupils will be inspired and curious about foreign languages by means of a vibrant, current and ambitious curriculum. Learning a second language will offer pupils the opportunity to explore relationships between language and identity, develop a deeper understanding of other cultures and the world around them with a better awareness of self, key individuals and cultural differences. The intention is that pupils will feel confident and enthused to become life-long language learners.

IMPLEMENTATION

At Cheddington, French is taught to whole classes in Key Stage 2 by the French Subject Lead. Lessons offering appropriate levels of challenge and differentiation will be taught at all times to ensure pupils learn effectively, continuously building their knowledge of and enthusiasm for French. Units will be linked to cross curricular themes as much as possible. Children will gradually build on previous knowledge as their French lessons continue to recycle, consolidate and embed prior learning, whilst building on all four language skills; listening, speaking, reading and writing. French phonics and grammar are integrated, and taught discreetly throughout KS2. Children's confidence as linguists will therefore naturally grow as a result. A variety of resources are used to explore the language, such as bilingual dictionaries and props, as well as learning songs and games to maximise enjoyment. There is a strong emphasis on having fun at Cheddington School to learn French.

IMPACT

Our ultimate goal is to prepare children for their language learning journey, no matter what language they study in Year 7 and beyond. Cheddington School also includes taster sessions in German and Spanish in Year 6, before children transition to secondary school.

Children are assessed according to age-related expectations in line with curriculum requirements. Assessments are used to inform the subject lead on planning and to complete the evaluation cycle. Lessons are structured with opportunities for Assessment for Learning throughout. This enables an evaluation of what has been learned, review success criteria and address misconceptions. Progress will be reported to parents in the end of year report.

Each class at Cheddington School has children with a wide range of abilities, and we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for them all by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. This means that, where appropriate, work will be scaffolded to maximise the child's potential for learning. MFL is, however, a highly inclusive subject and although the principal aim of teaching is to develop children's knowledge, skills and understanding of French, there is also a continuous emphasis on enjoyment. MFL is taught to all KS2 children, whatever their ability and individual needs. It can provide an alternative opportunity for some pupils to shine, which is wholeheartedly embraced at Cheddington Combined School.

The MFL subject lead will continually monitor the impact MFL teaching is having on the children's learning, through:

- Delivering high level teaching of French and ensuring curriculum coverage,
- Collecting evidence of good practice (such as photos and displays),
- Monitoring children's progress of MFL throughout KS2,
- Keeping up to date with developments in the subject area,
- Having timely observations and reflect on feedback,
- Reviewing resource provision.

Being successful in MFL is more than just learning a language - it can allow confidence to grow - thus giving pupils the opportunity to fulfil their potential. The robust and engaging MFL curriculum implemented by the subject lead will enable all pupils to develop key language skills set out by the national curriculum, as well as a love of languages and learning about other cultures.