Statement of intent for the Modern Foreign Language (MFL) French Curriculum

The National Curriculum provides the structure and skill development for the French Curriculum for Key Stages 2, where the skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing develop and progress through a variety of topics. Key language learning skills are also developed for example through the recognition of cognates and near cognates and using context and their own knowledge of the world to predict the meaning of unknown words. This better prepares pupils for language learning in Key Stage 3 where they may continue learning French or begin to learn a new language. The French Curriculum is based upon the Kapow Primary scheme of work, ensuring the National Curriculum coverage and progression throughout Key Stage 2.

Key vocabulary and grammatical structures are shared, taught, retrieved from previous years in order to embed in the pupils' long-term memory at relevant parts of different topics. The progression of skills within a topic are built up gradually, first focusing on speaking and listening to key words relevant to the topic, embedding pronunciation and phoneme-grapheme correspondences, before labelling and matching to images. Phonics is taught explicitly through the Mouth Mechanic sessions at the start of each lesson as well as during a lesson. Once the pupils become familiar with the target vocabulary, they progress onto sentence-level work. Here, relevant grammar knowledge is taught in context for the pupils to be able to ask and respond to key questions, before moving onto reading and writing using word mats and models. Resources are adapted, when necessary, to ensure SEND and disadvantaged pupils can access all aspects of the same curriculum. The planning, resourcing and delivery of the French curriculum is supported through Kapow.

Learning a foreign language is a necessary part of being a member of a multi-cultural society and provides an opening to other cultures. Pupils are encouraged to express their ideas and thoughts in French and to understand and respond to its speakers, both through speech and in writing. The curriculum provides opportunities for pupils to communicate for practical purposes, learn new ways of thinking and read in French.

The vast majority of pupils speak English as an additional language. Learning French provides the foundation for learning further languages, equipping children to study and work in other countries and communicate more widely. The French Curriculum fosters pupils' curiosity and deepens pupils' understanding of the world as well as their awareness of other cultures.