

The Dingle Primary School Modern Foreign Languages Subject – French Summary

In Languages pupils are taught: to understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources; to speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity in French; and to develop curiosity and a deeper understanding of the world.

At The Dingle, pupils are taught French, as a Modern Foreign Language starting in Year 3 at the beginning of Key Stage 2. Pupils study French to learn new ways of thinking, express themselves and to become increasingly open towards other cultures. Within the French curriculum, pupils will extend their cultural awareness. They will learn about French traditions relating to Christmas, Easter, April Fools' Day and Bastille Day. They will also learn about French speaking countries in West Africa.

The teaching of French builds on skills pupils have developed since the Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1. It uses pupils' understanding that words are made up of phonemes with corresponding graphemes and that a single sound can be written in different ways. It builds on pupils' ability to decode unfamiliar words, have good reading comprehension, memorise new information and speak with clear pronunciation and intonation.

Throughout Years 3-6 pupils will develop their French phonetic knowledge. Children will learn several songs and rhymes in French; they will memorise and perform short stories, listen to and understand different speakers of the language. When studying pupils will use a bilingual dictionary and apply grammar rules including: masculine, feminine, plurality, adjective order, verb conjugates and cognates to ensure accuracy in their oracy and literacy skills.

In Year 3, pupils will begin their French education by learning which countries speak French and understanding that French is unique language with its own pronunciation and grammatical rules that differ from English. They will learn and recall vocabulary for greetings, number, days of the week and animals. Pupils will learn to construct sentences of increasing sophistication overtime, learning to use the connective 'and', the correct use of genders in French, conjugates of the verbs 'to be', 'to love', 'to hate', and grammar order for using colour adjectives.

In Year 4, pupils will build on and extend their knowledge. Pupils' greetings will extend to include personal introductions and understand pronouns. Pupils will learn months and apply number and days of the week knowledge to reading and writing dates. Vocabulary knowledge extends to body parts enabling pupils to start understanding and generating descriptions in French. They also learn nouns for food and start to give opinions using known vocabulary.

In Year 5, pupils will learn to describe people in more detail. They will learn to shop for clothes and to talk about family members. Pupils will speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity. They will learn to conjugate more verbs and become increasingly grammatically accurate in both the written and spoken word.

In Year 6, pupils will learn to answer questions with increased confidence and spontaneity using their prior knowledge and adding increased detail with adjectives. They will have a broader vocabulary, read a wider range of texts and write with increased fluency and grammatical accuracy. Pupils will learn to talk about weather and transport and learn the irregular verb to go. Pupils will

learn further verb conjugations, prepositions, expand their knowledge of numbers to 60, learning to complete calculations.

Languages is a subject that closely links with pupils understanding of the world they live in, their appreciation for different cultures and ability to communicate and empathise with the global community.

Our pupils learn French, as a foundation to further study in any language course at Key Stage 3. As they are explicitly taught metacognition for language study within the subject. Locally, Sandbach School offers Spanish or German in Year 7 and Sandbach High School offer French and Spanish to pupils.

"To learn a language is to have one more window from which to look at the world..." – Chinese Proverb

At The Dingle, our French education supports pupils' development as global citizens.

