

Bonjour!

Bonjour!

French

Progression of knowledge, skills and vocabulary

Kapow
Primary™

Curriculum support

Kapow Primary's curriculum access is being improved to make resources more searchable, user-friendly and sustainable.

Curriculum information pages and curriculum portals bring together content that was previously only available across multiple PDF documents. This allows quicker access to key information and ensures that the most up-to-date guidance is always available.

Curriculum information pages

These pages outline the intent, implementation and impact of the Kapow Primary curriculum, including the rationale behind the approach. They act as a central hub for curriculum guidance, with links to related resources, embedded media and FAQs to support understanding.

Curriculum portals

The curriculum portals provide an online view of each subject's long-term plan and progression. They bring together key unit information, including national curriculum links, British values and SMSC, knowledge and skills, vocabulary and cross-curricular connections, allowing easy navigation between whole-school and unit-level views.

1. Intent

This section outlines the overall French curriculum plan, including its structure, sequencing and the specific knowledge and skills pupils are expected to acquire.

Curriculum aims

Kapow Primary's French scheme of work aims to inspire pupils to become curious, confident and...

Visit the French curriculum information pages online.

French

Long-term plan | Progression of Skills & knowledge | Vocabulary progression

Standard | Mixed-age | Condensed | Download

Long-term plan Standard - Current (2025/26)

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 3	Unit 1: French greetings with puppets	Unit 2: French adjectives of colour, size and shape	Unit 3: French playground games - numbers and age	Unit 4: In a French classroom	Unit 5: French transport	Unit 6: A circle of life in French
Year 4	Unit 1: Portraits - describing in French	Unit 2: Clothes - getting dressed in France	Unit 3: French numbers, calendars and birthdays	Unit 4: French weather and the water cycle	Unit 5: French food - Miam, miam!	Unit 6: French and the Eurovision Song Contest

Visit the French curriculum portal online.

Introduction

This document gives an overview of the key knowledge covered in each knowledge strand of our French scheme of work (**Phonics**, **Vocabulary** and **Grammar**) and how this builds across the year groups.

For **Vocabulary** we have made the decision to focus on French vocabulary structures and key vocabulary on this document, rather than listing all the vocabulary used in a unit. This is because it is the structures which are progressive and able to be used in different contexts and therefore are more valuable for children to retain. Where we feel that the 'topic vocabulary' is particularly important for pupils to retain we have added this on in **blue**, but at times it may be that they only retain relevant vocabulary for themselves (e.g. food they love/strongly dislike; family members from their own families etc.)

It also shows how we would expect pupils to progress in their application of this knowledge when dealing with **Language comprehension** and **Language production** in order to meet the end of key stage attainment targets set out in the National curriculum.

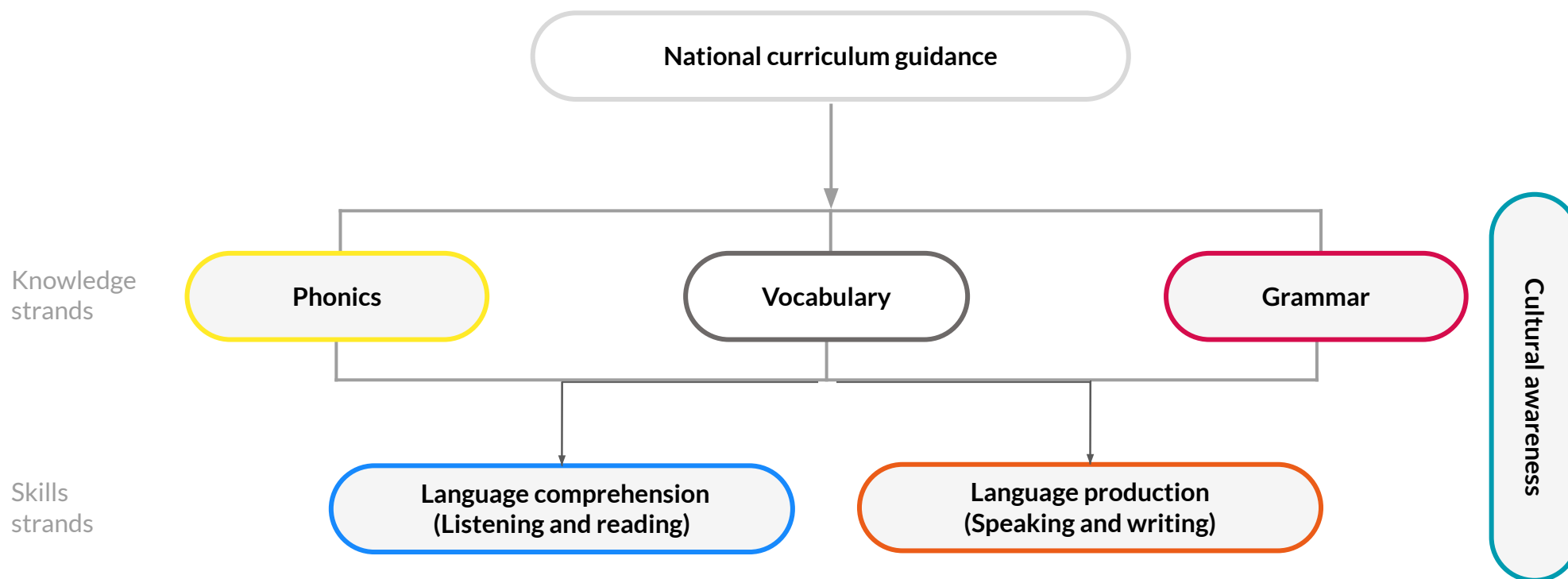
Please see our [**French: Long-term plan**](#) for more information about the design of our French curriculum.

Our key documents are regularly updated to reflect changes to content on our website. This version was created on 06.09.24.

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How is the French scheme of work organised?

From the Ofsted research review: languages, we have identified three knowledge strands or 'pillars'. In each unit children will then draw upon this knowledge when comprehending and producing language to help them achieve the aims of the National curriculum.



National Curriculum	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Understanding and communicating ideas, using their knowledge of phonology, grammatical structures and vocabulary.	To become familiar with key phonemes represented by the following letters: a, c, e, g, i, j, q, s, t, u, (which differ from their pronunciation in English). To identify sounds created by linking some of the key phonemes: ou, on, an, oi, in, ge, eu, oi, ui, eau. To recognise that some letters carry accents and that these change the sound of those letters: ç, è, ù, é à, â To know that a ç cedilla is the hook shape that sits under the letter c when c precedes the letters a,o,u. It changes the pronunciation of the c from a hard to a soft 'ss' sound. To know that consonants at the end of words in French are not usually pronounced: the t is silent in salut, comment, petit and vert. The e at the end of m'appelle; the s at the end of t'appelles and pas are silent, as is the d in grand.	To identify sounds created by linking some of the key phonemes: in, ou, on, en, eau, et, eau, eu, ez. To recognise and begin to predict key word patterns and spellings. To know that 'h' at the start of a word in French is not pronounced.	To consistently recognise and apply changes in sound caused by accents when speaking, especially acute accent é, grave accent è and ç cedilla. To know that a change in voice intonation can indicate when a question is being asked.	To know a range of ways to ask questions in French using statements and voice inflexion, by placing a question phrase e.g est-ce que at the beginning of a statement, or by inverting the subject and verb: quel genre de musique aimes-tu ? To know that an understanding of different sounds in French can help when attempting to pronounce new vocabulary.

Year 3	Autumn 1 <u>French greetings with puppets</u>		Spring 1 <u>French playground games- numbers and age</u>		Summer 1 <u>French transport</u>	
Understanding and communicating ideas, using their knowledge of phonology, grammatical structures and vocabulary.	je tu bonjour bonsoir bonne nuit je m'appelle ça va bien ça va très bien comme ci, comme ça ça va mal ça va très mal au revoir c'est	I you hello good evening good night my name is I am fine I am very well so so I am not ok I am really not ok goodbye it is	Combien ? Tu as quel âge ? un deux trois quatre cinq six sept huit neuf dix onze douze plus moins et font/égale	How many/much? How old are you? one two three four five six seven eight nine ten eleven twelve plus minus and Equals (in Maths)	en/à je vais en/à ... puis Tu vas où ? Tu vas comment ? Il y a combien de ... ? Comment tu vas à l' école ?	By (referring to transport) I go by... then Where are you going? How are you going? How many ... are there? How do you go to school? Colour adjectives Names in French of French-speaking countries and places
	Autumn 2 <u>French adjectives of colour, size and shape</u>		Spring 2 <u>In a French classroom</u>		Summer 2 <u>A circle of life in French</u>	
	grand petit rouge blue jaune vert blanc noir orange violet rose brun un cercle un carré un rectangle un triangle	big small red blue yellow green white black orange purple pink brown a circle a square a rectangle a triangle	écoutez ! écrivez ! lisez ! fermez ! ouvrez ! parlez ! regardez ! levez-vous ! asseyez-vous ! dans mon sac j'ai... je n'ai pas de... mais Tu as... ?	listen write read close open speak watch/look stand up sit down in my bag I have... I do not have... but Do you have...?	le la l' qui habite dans mange où est ?	the (masc) the (fem) the (when the noun begins with a vowel or an h). who lives in eat where is?

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Year 4	Autumn 2 <u>Clothes - getting dressed in French</u>		Spring 2 <u>French weather and the water cycle</u>		Summer 2 <u>French and the Eurovision Song Contest</u>	
Understanding and communicating ideas, using their knowledge of phonology, grammatical structures and vocabulary.	un	a/an (masculine article of clothing)	Quel temps fait-il aujourd'hui?	What is the weather like today?	jouer du/de la/de l'	to play the...
	une	a/an (feminine article of clothing)	il fait beau il fait mauvais il fait chaud il fait froid il pleut il neige il y a du soleil il y a du vent il y a des nuages	it is good weather it is bad weather it is hot weather it is cold weather it is raining it is snowing it is sunny it is windy it is cloudy	je ne joue pas d'instrument	I do not play an instrument
	des	For articles of clothing that take the plural form in French	dans le nord l'est le sud l'ouest	in the north the east the south the west	je préfère je déteste	I prefer I detest
	mon/ma/mes	my (m/f/pl)			Tu joues d'un instrument ?	Do you play an instrument?
	dans ma valise il y a	in my suitcase there is/are	Quel temps fait-il aujourd'hui?	What is the weather like today?	Quel genre de musique aimes-tu ?	Which type of music do you like?
	Il/elle porte	he/she is wearing				Names of instruments
	j'aime/je n'aime pas	I like/I do not like				
	C'est de quelle couleur ?	Which colour is it? Nouns for items of clothing		multiples of 10		

Year 5	Autumn 1 <u>French monster pets</u>		Spring 1 <u>Shopping in France</u>		Summer 1 <u>Verbs in a week</u>	
	de court(e) +s pointu(e) +s long (masc) +s (plural) longue (fem) +s (plural) il/elle habite il/elle mange Qu'est-ce que c'est ? la tête les épaules les genoux les pieds un oeil les oreilles la bouche les bras les dents le nez les jambes (fem.)	of short pointy long he/she lives he/she eats What is it? head shoulders knees feet an eye ears mouth arms teeth nose legs colour adjectives in masculine, feminine and plural forms	du / de la / de l' / des bon appétit ! c'est délicieux laisser cuire laver couper ajouter émincer Je vais au marché et j'achète... C'est combien ? il a faim il n'a pas faim il a tout mangé il reste au lit	some enjoy your food! It is delicious leave to cook wash cut add slice I go to the market and I buy... How much is it? He is hungry He is not hungry He ate everything He stays in bed fruits and vegetables numbers 60-100 1000	nous vous ils/elles avoir être chanter courir danser dormir lire nager sauter habiter regarder écrire jouer	we you (formal/group) they (masculine/feminine) to have to be to sing to run to dance to sleep to read to swim to jump to live to look/watch to write to play
	Autumn 2 <u>Space exploration - in French</u>		Spring 2 <u>French speaking world</u>		Summer 2 <u>Meet my French family</u>	
	énorme minuscule fragile tranquille plus ... que moins ... que parce que loin/proche/près de	enormous tiny fragile calm more ... than less ... than because far/close/near to names of planets	j'ai trouvé les pas au nord au sud à l'est à l'ouest un pays	I found steps to the north to the south to the east to the west a country names of countries	j'ai un frère j'ai une sœur je n'ai pas de je suis fils(masc)/fille (fem) unique son anniversaire c'est le ... j'adore	I have a brother I have a sister I do not have I am an only child his/her birthday is on the ... I love names of family members names of fruits

Year 6	Autumn 1 <u>French sport and the Olympics</u>		Spring 1 <u>In my French house</u>		Summer 1 <u>Visiting a town in France</u>	
Understanding and communicating ideas, using their knowledge of phonology, grammatical structures and vocabulary.	faire marcher adorer détester aller	to do to walk to love to detest to go (the whole verb paradigm)	J'habite dans... un appartement une grande/petite maison une maison jumelée la salle à manger la cuisine la chambre le salon	I live in a flat a big/small house a terraced house the dining room the kitchen the bedroom the living room	un billet un carnet entre près/loin de chez moi voici tourne à gauche / à droite la deuxième à gauche / à droite	a ticket a book of tickets between near to/far from at my house/home here is/are turn left/right
	à droite à gauche tout droit vite lentement	right left straight ahead quick slowly	il y a il n'y a pas de au rez-de-chaussée au premier étage en bas en haut sous devant derrière à côté du /de la / de l' / des Où est... ? Qu'est-ce que c'est ? c'est la salle à manger	there is there is not on the ground floor on the first floor downstairs upstairs under in front of behind next to the... Where is...? What is it? it is the dining room nouns for objects in a bedroom	un billet pour Paris s'il vous plaît où est ... ? tu vas aller au/à la/à l'... ? non, je ne vais pas aller au/à la/à l'...	a ticket for Paris please Where is...? Are you going to...? Non, I am not going to...
	C'est quel sport ? Tu aimes le sport ?	Which sport is it? Do you like sport? nouns for sports				nouns for transport and places in town
	Autumn 2 <u>French football champions</u>		Spring 2 <u>Planning a French holiday</u>			
	une équipe un match de foot un joueur/joueuse de foot un supporter venir de je viens de il/elle vient de	a team a football match a football player (masc/fem) a supporter to come from I come from he/she comes from	la plage les montagnes il/elle va nous allons vous allez ils/elles vont Je vais aller au/en/aux rester faire Quand/où/pourquoi vas-tu en vacances ? En été ou en hiver ? Quel temps va-t-il faire ? Que vas-tu faire ? Qu'est-ce qu'il y a dans ta valise ?	the beach the mountains he/she goes we go you go (formal/group) they go (masc or mixed group/fem) I am going to go to (masc/fem/plural) to stay to do/make When/where/where are you going on holiday? In summer or in winter? What will the weather be? What are you going to do? What is in your suitcase?		

	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Terminology	Noun Masculine Feminine Verb Adjectives Conjunction Preposition Accent Article	Definite article Indefinite article Plural Adjectival agreement Possessive adjectives Negative Subject pronouns: first, second and third person singular	Adverb Comparative adjectives Metaphor Compound nouns Compound sentences	Infinitive Conjugation Future tense Irregular verbs Second verb infinitive Partitive articles
Feminine and masculine forms: Nouns (including articles, pronouns and plural formation)	To understand that every French noun is either masculine or feminine. To know that the gender affects the form of the indefinite article un or une . To know that feminine nouns often (but not always) end in 'e'. To know that most nouns in French become plural by adding an 's' at the end, as in English, but that some are irregular: des ciseaux . To know that the pronoun ça means 'it'. To know that the pronoun y means 'there'. To know that when a preposition and a definite article are contracted this indicates a place: au/à la/aux .	To know the equivalents for the word 'the' in French : le/la/l'/les and 'a/an/some' : un, une, des . To know that I can find the gender of a noun by looking it up in the dictionary where French nouns are followed by a gender indicator.	To know that there are compound nouns in French e.g. mon grand-père, mes grand-parents . To know that a simple metaphor requires two nouns and the verb 'to be' e.g: le soleil est un ballon jaune .	To know whether to use the pronouns il 'he' or elle 'she' when describing someone.
Feminine and masculine forms: Adjectives (position and agreement)	To know that most adjectives are placed after the noun in French. To know that adjectives of size such as petit and grand are placed before the noun.	To know that the ending of an adjective changes depending on the gender and number of the noun it describes. To know that certain colour adjectives are invariable and do not change in the feminine form: rouge ; that some do not change in feminine or plural forms: marron, orange . To know that some adjectives are irregular in the feminine and/or plural forms: violet (masc)- violette (fem); blanc (masc)- blanche (fem), heureux - heureuse . To know that possessive adjectives mon/ma/mes must agree with the gender and number of the noun they describe,	To know that adjectives must agree with the gender and number of the noun being described. To know that I can compare nouns by placing plus/ moins and que around the adjective of comparison. To know that when making comparisons the ending of the adjective may need to change depending on the gender and number of the noun it is describing.	To know that partitive articles describe where something is placed: le livre est à côté du stylo . To know a range of prepositions to describe the position of objects.

	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Verbs (including conjugation and negation)	To know that there are high frequency verbs s'appeler, avoir, être and aller which are used to formulate and answer questions. To know that je/j', and tu are subject pronouns. To know that c'est means "it is" and is used to describe what something is. To know that il y a is used to say 'there is/are.' To know that placing ne...pas around the verb makes it negative: ne + verb + pas.	To know that the endings of verbs change according to the subject. To know how to form the first, second and third person of the verbs avoir (to have) and être (to be). To know that we can use conjunctions to link phrases such as et/mais. To know the verbs avoir and être are used to describe appearance and personality. To know the meaning of the verb porter (to wear) in the third person singular form: il/elle porte, and aimer in the third person plural form: ils aiment. To know that the verb aimer is used to express an opinion, including with the negative form ne ... pas. To know how avoir (to have) and être (to be) are conjugated in the third person singular forms: il/elle a; il/elle est.	To know all subject pronouns in French and that je contracts to j' when the verb begins with a vowel. To know that the endings of French verb groups (er/ir/re) determine the pattern for how the verb is conjugated. To know that the same verb is not always used in English and French for a given phrase: when speaking about age and being hungry in French the verb avoir (to have) is used, not the verb <i>to be</i> as in English. J'ai dix ans - I <u>am</u> ten years old. Il a faim - He <u>is</u> hungry. To know that some verbs are irregular. To know that compound sentences join two simple sentences together using connectives such as et and mais. To know that ne is contracted to n' when followed by a vowel: je n'ai pas faim.	To know that the way verbs change to match the pronoun is called conjugation. To know that some verbs do not follow regular patterns, such as avoir (to have) and être (to be) and aller (to go). To conjugate the verbs aller, jouer and faire. To know that we use the verb jouer (to play) with some sports and faire (to do) with other sports. To know that, for regular verbs, the singular imperative verb (tu) is formed by removing the s from the second person singular of a verb e.g. tournes becomes tourne (turn). To know that venir de + the infinitive of the second verb indicates a recent action: je viens de finir - I have just finished, or a place of origin.
Key features and patterns of the language; how to apply these, for instance, to build sentences; and how these differ from or are similar to English	To know that the word order is sometimes different in French compared to English. To know that we can use conjunctions such as et (and) and puis (then) to join clauses. To know that en is usually used as a preposition when the mode of transport is something you get into e.g. en voiture whereas à is usually used when you are not getting into a form of transport e.g. à pied which means 'on foot'. To know that some words are cognates: they have the same spelling and meaning in French and English: le train, le taxi. To know that accents in French can change the sound of a letter.	To know that months, seasons and days of the week in French are not capitalised unless used at the beginning of a sentence. To know that basic sentence structure English and French have the same pattern: subject + verb + object. To know that you can make a statement into a question simply by changing the intonation of your voice in French. To know that in a bilingual dictionary abbreviations give us grammatical information about nouns and other words in French.	To know that there is no possessive apostrophe in French. To say 'my father's sister in French would be the sister of my father: la sœur de mon père. To understand that the English language contains some words borrowed from the French language, but that these may have different meanings: les chips - crisps, les baskets- trainers. To understand that words in French and English will not always have a direct equivalent in the other language.	To know that parce que (because) can be used to extend a sentence and give a justification.

National Curriculum	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding.	Listening and responding to single words and short phrases.	Listening and responding to full sentences.	Listening and selecting information from short audio passages to give an appropriate response.	Listening and inferring information from an extended audio passage using language detective skills.
Explore the patterns and sounds of languages through songs and rhymes and link to spelling, sound and meaning of words.	Listening and noticing rhyming words when joining in with songs. Beginning to notice common spelling patterns.		Independently identifying rhyming words and spelling patterns when joining in with songs. Beginning to predict spelling patterns.	
Appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language.	Reading aloud some words from simple songs, stories and rhymes.	Following a short text or rhyme, listening and reading at the same time.	Reading and responding to a range of authentic texts.	Reading short authentic texts for enjoyment or information.
Read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing.	Recognising some familiar French words in written form. Beginning to understand and notice cognates and near cognates.	Recognising some familiar French words when written in a short phrase. Identifying and discussing cognates and beginning to explore various language detective strategies.	Identifying key information in simple writing. Using a range of language detective strategies to decode new vocabulary including context and text type.	Identifying and extracting key information in a range of authentic texts. Reading and using language detective skills to assess meaning including sentence structure.
Broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary.	Becoming familiar with format, layout and simple use of a bilingual dictionary. Using visual clues to make predictions about the meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary,	Using a bilingual dictionary to find the meaning of unknown words and check the spelling of unfamiliar words. Using contextual clues and cues to gist and make predictions about meanings.	Confidently using a bilingual dictionary to find the meaning of unknown words and check the spelling of unfamiliar words. Using further contextual clues and cues, such as knowledge of text types and structures to deduce unknown vocabulary.	Using a bilingual dictionary to select alternative vocabulary for independent sentence building. Using further contextual clues and cues, such as awareness of grammatical structures to deduce unknown vocabulary.

National Curriculum	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help.	Asking and/or answering simple questions. Forming simple statements with information including the negative. Practising speaking with a partner.	Recognising and answering simple questions which involve giving personal information. Beginning to form opinion phrases. Using a variety of conversational phrases.	Forming a question in order to ask for information. Presenting factual information in extended sentences including justification. Beginning to use conversational phrases for purposeful dialogue.	Planning, asking and answering extended questions. Developing extended sentences to justify a fact or opinion. Engaging in conversation and transactional language.
Speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures.	Using short phrases to give information. Recognising and repeating phrases from familiar rhymes and songs.	Using a model to form a spoken sentence. Beginning to adapt phrases from a rhyme/song.	Rehearsing and recycling extended sentences orally. Speaking in full sentences using known vocabulary.	Planning and giving a short oral presentation. Modifying, expressing and comparing opinions.
Develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases.	Listening and repeating key phonemes with care. Recognising that sounds and spelling patterns can be different from English. Recognising how intonation and gesture are used to differentiate between statements and questions. Discussing strategies for remembering and applying pronunciation rules. Building confidence by repeating short phrases with increasing accuracy.		Recognising key phonemes in an unfamiliar context, applying pronunciation rules. Using intonation and gesture to differentiate between statements and questions. Formulating their own strategies to remember and apply pronunciation rules. Speaking and reading aloud with increasing confidence and fluency.	
Present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences.	Introducing self to a partner with simple phrases.	Rehearsing and performing a short Role-play or song.	Creating and presenting a dialogue or role-play.	Giving a presentation drawing upon learning from a number of previous topics.

National Curriculum	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences to express ideas clearly.	Recalling and writing simple words from memory.	Selecting and writing short words and phrases.	Adapting model sentences to express different ideas.	Using existing knowledge of vocabulary and phrases to create new sentences.
Use familiar vocabulary in phrases and simple writing.	Experimenting with simple writing, copying with accuracy.	Making short phrases or sentences using word cards and knowledge organisers.	Writing a short text using word and phrase cards, knowledge organisers and a bilingual dictionary to model or scaffold.	Constructing a short text on a familiar topic.
Describe people, places and things and actions orally and in writing.	Recognising and using adjectives of colour and size.	Using different adjectives with a singular noun, with correct positioning and agreement. Choosing appropriate adjectives from a wider range of adjectives.	Selecting the correct form of an adjective that agrees with the singular or plural noun it is describing. Using adapted phrases to describe an object, person or place.	Generating the correct form of an adjective that agrees with the singular or plural noun it is describing. Using a wide range of descriptive phrases.

Year 3		Year 4	
Skills	Knowledge	Skills	Knowledge
Discussing similarities and differences between customs and traditions in France and the UK. Showing awareness of the capital city and identifying some key cultural landmarks and works of art such as <i>L'escargot</i> by Matisse.	To know that in French there are formal and informal greetings. To know some playground games played in France. To know the names and locations of some of the cities in France. To name some famous paintings by French artists. To know that French is spoken in different countries around the world. To identify some French-speaking countries.	Discovering French festivals and their traditions. Comparing the weather between France and the UK. Ordering typical French food and drink. Creating a song in French for a famous song contest.	To know that in French there is a formal and informal version of the word for 'you', and when to use which one. To know that in France the temperature is measured in celsius. To know that the currency used in France is euros and to recognise some of the notes and coins. To know that orders are typically taken at the table in France. To know that the Eurovision song contest is an annual competition between countries in the euro area and that it was created to promote cooperation between countries after the Second World War.
Year 5		Year 6	
Skills	Knowledge	Skills	Knowledge
Identifying key geographical features of countries in the French-speaking world. Analysing climate data for some French-speaking countries.	To be able to name French-speaking countries and recognise the flags of those countries. To be able to explain how climate varies in some French-speaking countries.	Playing the traditional French game of la pétanque. Researching information about the French cycle race la Tour de France. Comparing sporting activities in France and the UK.	To know the rules for playing French bowls. To know how the maillot jaune is awarded during the Tour de France race. To know that football is immensely popular in France which is reflected in the support for the national team les Bleus.

Date	Update
16.08.23	This document has been extensively revised to reflect the change in structure of our languages curriculum, with an increased focus on developing progression of knowledge in phonics, vocabulary and grammar.
06.09.24	Updated French sport and the Olympics link.
03.03.26	Added curriculum support information (p.2).