

## MFL - French

Language learning provides the foundation for further study, celebrates difference and opens doors.

French is developed in four different areas:

- Listening and Responding
- Speaking
- Reading and Responding
- Writing and Grammatical Structures

*(Not necessarily taught in these set orders)*

**Substantive knowledge** - in French is based on the acquisition of the knowledge of how to listen, speak, read and write in the language.

**Disciplinary knowledge** - is using the skills and knowledge of a linguist, and encapsulating this to engage in verbal and written dialogues in a foreign language.

\_This is seen as one continuous event with language being built step by step and progress being planned across time. There is a steadily increasing complexity of language (both understanding and producing language, written and oral forms).

The main tasks for beginners are to internalise knowledge of the phonics, vocabulary and grammar of the language, and to be able to understand and produce these elements when they are combined into sentences. Through learning and practice, the range and complexity of the grammatical features and the breadth and depth of vocabulary knowledge will increase over time, as will the length (and complexity) of utterance or text being understood or produced.

This includes aims such as:

- engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help
- speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures
- describe people, places, things and actions

Language exists in spoken and written forms. It is both produced and understood (listening, speaking, reading, writing). Progress in languages is along three pillars:

Phonics: the relationship between sounds and spelling

Vocabulary: words, their meaning, and how to use them

Grammar: how words are put together into sentences.

Pupils' knowledge of phonics, vocabulary and grammar must increase step-by-step. Pupils must focus on how phonics, grammar and vocabulary combine so that they can understand and produce ever more complex language. With more vocabulary, grammar and phonics, pupils will produce and understand more complex and lengthier texts.

