



Stowford School

Curriculum Statement for French



Intent:

The Stowford curriculum for French aims to ensure that all children develop their understanding of and access to **vocabulary, grammar and phonics** to:

-  understand and respond to spoken and written French from a variety of authentic sources
-  speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation
-  write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt
-  discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in French.



Implementation:

The Stowford French curriculum is a unique blend of a range of resources which have been chosen to provide the best education for children. Where possible French fits with the topic being studied but not always.

Our curriculum hinges around improving children's use of French vocabulary, grammar and phonics and thus follows the methodology advocated by the famous linguist Gianfranco Conti. This includes 'Narrow Reading' and 'Narrow Listening', use of parallel texts and is based on the following premises.

- Extensive processing the target items are processed over and over again;
- they are processed in a range of linguistic contexts many of which familiar thereby facilitating the predictability of any unknown vocabulary item;
- the recurring patterns (e.g. the same sentence stems + a new vocabulary item), even though initially unfamiliar, do become familiar after a few encounters, which provides additional contextual cues for the understanding of the text;

- repetition enhances retention

The French subject leader keeps up to date, liaises regularly with secondary school colleagues to enhance transition to KS3 and develops subject knowledge for themselves and for staff. A whole schools view is gained by ensuring continuity and progression of skills. Through monitoring, the subject leader focuses on children learning and progress. This is based on learning walks, discussion with pupils and staff, looking at books and professional discussions. This then becomes linked to CPD and opportunities to share good practice.

The French curriculum provides a rich experience for all children in which they can develop skills to explore, access knowledge and make connections across all learning.

Assessment: Following a unit of work, children will be able to produce sentences in speech and in writing on the subject learnt.



Impact:

The Stowford French curriculum fosters children's curiosity and deepens their understanding of the world. The teaching enables children to express their ideas and thoughts in French and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and in writing. It provides opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes, learn new ways of thinking and read literature in the original language. Language teaching provides the foundation for learning further languages, equipping children to study, travel and work in other countries.