

Modern Foreign Languages

Intent, Implementation and Impact



Intent

At St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School, Walbottle, our intent in teaching French is to inspire curiosity, confidence, and a love of language from an early age. Learning French supports our Catholic values by promoting respect, understanding, and appreciation of other cultures and communities. We aim to give all pupils the opportunity to develop the foundations of language learning that will support them throughout their education and prepare them well for the next stages, including high school. Through French, pupils learn that language is a powerful means of communication and connection in a diverse and global world.

Implementation

French is taught across the school, beginning in Key Stage 1, where pupils take part in introductory French sessions focusing on basic language skills such as greetings, simple phrases, colours, and numbers to 20. These early experiences help pupils develop confidence, enjoyment, and positive attitudes towards language learning.

In Key Stage 2, French is taught through weekly, well-sequenced lessons that build on prior knowledge and progressively develop pupils' listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Lessons are engaging and interactive, using songs, games, visual support, role-play, and repetition to support pronunciation and retention. Vocabulary and grammar are introduced gradually and revisited regularly to embed learning. Cultural awareness is woven throughout the curriculum, helping pupils understand life in France and other French-speaking countries.

French is taught by a French specialist, Mrs Hewson, ensuring high-quality pronunciation, subject knowledge, and consistency across the school. Ongoing assessment for learning is used to support progress and meet the needs of all learners.

Impact

By the time pupils leave St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School, they will have developed a secure foundation in French and the confidence to communicate in another language. Pupils show enthusiasm for languages and an understanding of different cultures, reflecting our Catholic ethos of respect and inclusion. They are **well prepared for the next stage of their education in high school**, with the language knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to continue their learning successfully. Overall, French contributes to developing confident, curious, and globally aware learners who are ready for future opportunities.

