



## French at St. John's

### Our Intent

The intent is for our children to be able to acquire and develop language skills, using what they have learned in a range of contexts with increasing competence and confidence. Learning another language gives children the valuable opportunity to develop positive attitudes to and respect for languages and cultures, other than their own. We aim to foster pupils' curiosity and deepen their understanding of both the world around them and their own language. We believe that learning a language is vital for children. It impacts hugely on their learning - not only reinforcing their grammatical knowledge of the English language, but developing career aspirations, that are able to span across the world.

### Our Implementation

At St. John's, we use the content from the National Curriculum as a basis to deliver our chosen Modern Foreign Language of French [MFL]. French was chosen, after surveying the experience of teaching staff in delivering MFL, in addition to French being one of the languages taught at Stanley (as our main feeder secondary school).

Throughout the school, our French curriculum is sequenced with each class being taught a themed unit per half-term. Whilst the National Curriculum does not stipulate specific expectations for each year group, our units are covered in progressive difficulty from the expected outcomes in Year 3 units, to more demanding language expectations by the end of Year 6 units. The units are based upon a central theme where appropriate, allowing for links to be made with key events in the world around us. Throughout each unit, whenever new language is presented, children are given repeated opportunities to practise and develop both their spoken and written language. Those points are then revisited within subsequent lessons and units, to support retrieval and retention of knowledge. Each of the units per year group, cover all four areas of development, which we aim to lay the foundations for further study within KS3. The content progressively focusses upon grammatical understanding and phonics, learning basic grammar which is appropriate to the French language. The content is intended to be both memorable and engaging, with a focus upon songs, rhyme and actions throughout the delivery of units, to aid understanding.

Although the discrete teaching of a Modern Foreign Language is non-statutory within EYFS, it is important to promote an understanding of the world around us as a core learning goal. Likewise in Year 1, whilst not statutory teachers incorporate opportunities for teaching French and other languages into their curriculum to promote JOY and ensure – through fun learning involving actions and songs – that pupils have the foundations in place for Key Stage 2.