

KS3 Modern Foreign Languages

Year 7

The true purpose of learning a language is to be able to use it in a variety of contexts, and during Year 7 our pupils follow a varied course that challenges them, whether they have studied French before or not. Our pupils will use a wide variety of spoken and written language to develop their skills in the four main areas which include Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing, whilst also beginning to appreciate the cultural diversity between the UK and different French-speaking nations. By the end of Year 7 it is envisaged that our pupils will be able to understand listening passages made up of simple sentences. They will be expected to be able to pick out and note main points and some details as well as transcribe words with understandable spelling. It is expected that our pupils will be able to take part in simple, structured conversations which include some opinions, using mainly memorised language. They will be able to substitute items of vocabulary to vary the questions or the answers, speaking with a generally accurate pronunciation. They will be expected to use a good range of classroom language to interact in class. They will be able to understand the main points and some details from texts or dialogues taken from a few topics and understand the gist of a variety of stories or poems. Short sentences might be translated from the foreign language into English with limited accuracy. We expect our pupils in Year 7 to be able to write paragraphs from memory made up of short sentences using taught language on a few topics. Some inaccuracy will be expected in their spelling. Similarly, we will expect our pupils to translate phrases or short sentences into the foreign language with some inaccuracy.

Year 8

In Year 8 our pupils will use a wide variety of spoken and written language to further develop their skills in the four main areas which include Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing, whilst also continuing to appreciate the cultural diversity between the UK and the target language country. By the end of Year 8 it is envisaged that our pupils will be able to understand main points and some details including opinions in longer listening passages which contain words they know taken from several topics and verbs in at least two different tenses. It is expected that they will be able to transcribe word and short sentences with generally accurate spelling. The expectations also are that they will be able to take part in short conversations, asking for and giving and opinions, using pronunciation which is generally consistent and accurate. They will be able to understand the main points and specific details from texts as well as understand the gist of more complex stories or poems. They will be able to translate short sentences from the foreign language into English with some accuracy. We expect our pupils in Year 8 to be able to write short paragraphs using memorised vocabulary, writing simple sentences which ask for and give information and opinions using at least two tenses, with spelling which is more accurate than inaccurate. Finally, our pupils will be able to translate simple sentences into the foreign language with some accuracy.

Year 9

In Year 9 French, our pupils follow a course which builds upon the schemes and strategies implemented in Years 7 and 8, using the skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing to widen our pupils' vocabulary range and increase their knowledge of grammatical constructions in preparation for GCSE. By the end of Year 9, it is envisaged that our pupils will be effectively equipped for the GCSE course through taking more responsibility for improving their own learning and performance. By the end of Year 9 it is envisaged that our pupils will be able to understand short narratives and longer extracts which cover various tenses and complex structures. They will be able to pick out main points and specific details including points of view with language spoken at normal speed. Some of our pupils will be able to infer as attitudes and emotions from the context or tone of voice of the speaker are recognised and understood. Pupils will be expected to transcribe language with increasing accuracy. The expectations also are that they will be able to take part in multi-exchange conversations, changing or adapting the language using a variety of tenses and pronouncing the language consistently well. They will be able to understand a variety of texts. They will be expected to use clues more confidently and apply their knowledge of grammar to work out the meaning of unfamiliar language. They will be able to translate generally accurately more complex sentences from the foreign language into English. We expect our pupils in Year 9 to be able to write longer paragraphs from memory which include some complex structures and extended sentences with a range of tenses, time markers, connectives and intensifiers. They will be able to express opinions, giving reasons and justifications, and ask questions with almost always accurate spelling. Finally, we expect our pupils to be able to translate longer sentences or short paragraphs into the foreign language largely accurately.