



GLEBE PRIMARY SCHOOL UNITED LEARNING ACADEMY

French Policy 2023-2024

Updated: Autumn 2023
New Review: Autumn 2024

Approved by the Local Governing Board on 6th February 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Dempster", is written in a cursive style.

Signed by: Mr. James Dempster
Position: Chair of the Local Governing Body

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French at Glebe: Intent statement

At Glebe Primary School, our **high-quality French curriculum** is part of our **whole school values based curriculum**. Children are offered a broad range of learning units throughout their time in our school. They are also given the opportunity **hear** French language **spoken by a native speaker** in every lesson through our use of the 'Language Angels' French classroom support program. The children are then **inspired** to **speak** French and to **write** with confidence, fluency and spontaneity. All of our children are well supported and **challenged** so that every child makes great progress. In learning French it is also essential that we take the opportunity to learn about **French culture and history**. As such, every year group finds out about a different French speaking country around the world - about why these countries speak French and how that makes up a key part of their unique culture. In doing this we are truly **nurturing** our pupils to become global citizens.

How we teach French at Glebe

French is taught once a week in all KS2 classes and each half term every class has a different unit focus to broaden their understanding of vocabulary and sentence structure. Each unit is planned to build progressively from one to another so, over each pupil's time at Glebe, they will be able to use their previous learning to springboard into the next. For example, Year 3 learn the numbers 0-10 in Spring 1 and then learn how to say how old they are in Spring 2 which gives them the perfect opportunity to apply their learning.

As mentioned above, we teach with the support of 'Language Angels' which is an online platform that has brilliant resources, games and songs to bring each unit to life. Importantly, every lesson also has sound buttons so that the children can hear the vocabulary being spoken by a native speaker to ensure that every child can learn to speak French and sound as authentic as possible!

Each unit is also divided into parts which each have a different focus. Vocabulary learning, speaking and listening and writing are the three main parts to every unit and then the children will also recap on the learning from the previous unit in part 4.

In addition to that, each year group learns about a different French speaking country for a single lesson every half term. Year 3 find out about France, Year 4 explore Martinique, Year 5 research Morocco and Year 6 learn about Canada. Wherever possible, these lessons are tied into the topic for that half term, so when Year 4 are studying the rainforest they look specifically at the rainforest in Martinique while Year 5 find out about when the Vikings visited Morocco in 859CE during their Viking topic.

French in the Early Years and KS1

French is not taught in Early Years and KS1 and only begins when a child starts KS2 in Year 3.

French within KS2

As well as building upon each unit that is learnt, the expectation is that children gradually build upon and broaden their French skills as they move up through the school. Every year group learn new vocabulary, speak and listen to each other and write but initially the children are more focussed on speaking and listening with much less emphasis on writing. As the children get older, the children are encouraged to write longer sentences as their knowledge improves.

French modifications

Using Language Angels to support vocabulary pronunciation in lessons means that French is really accessible to all learners but sometimes that just isn't enough for all children. Due to this there are many strategies that teachers employ to ensure that every child gets the most out of their learning regardless of the individual challenges that they might face. Some children will learn a reduced vocabulary list or be given sentence structure templates so that they can be successful in writing lessons. Pictures can be used to help those children who are less confident with their literacy skills and children can also be buddied up with a more confident and supportive child to encourage them throughout a lesson. These are just a few examples of what we do at Glebe but there are of course many other ways that we will support each individual child to meet their personal learning needs.

Assessment and Monitoring within French

Each class teacher will assess their children based on the learning objectives for the unit that they are studying that half term. In addition to this, Mr Baker - our French subject leader - has regularly allocated time throughout the school year to focus on talking to children about their learning, to look at work books and to see first-hand how French is being taught across the school.

Extra opportunities within French

Learning about French speaking countries is a wonderful example of how we look to do that bit extra at Glebe to ensure that our children's learning experience is rich and varied. This lovely addition to our curriculum is entirely a Glebe initiative and shows how we tailor our provision to give it purpose. In Years 5 and 6 the children also have a translation unit in which they use their skills to translate short French sentences into English. We are hoping to introduce a translation unit for both Years 3 and 4 very soon – watch this space!