

French – Year 7

Curriculum Intent

In Year 7, French introduces students to the language through a carefully sequenced, phonics-led curriculum that prioritises accurate pronunciation, secure grammatical foundations and confident use of core vocabulary. Students develop listening, speaking, reading and writing skills alongside an understanding of how the French language works. The curriculum builds progressively across the year, moving from simple sentence construction towards greater grammatical control and independence, preparing students for continued language learning in Years 8 and 9.

What Students Will Study Across the Year

Autumn Term – Phonics, Core Grammar and Simple Sentences

Students begin by developing secure knowledge of French phonics, focusing on sound–spelling correspondences, silent letters and liaison. They learn to recognise and pronounce new sounds accurately and apply this knowledge to reading and spelling. Alongside phonics, students are introduced to essential grammar, including nouns, articles, adjectives and subject pronouns. Core verbs such as *être*, *avoir* and *faire* are introduced in the present tense, enabling students to describe people and things and express simple ideas with increasing confidence.

Autumn and Spring Terms – Verbs, Questions and Sentence Building

Students extend their grammatical understanding through regular *-er* verbs and further work on common irregular verbs. They learn to form questions using intonation and question words, and begin to express likes, dislikes and activities using two-verb structures. Vocabulary learning is carefully structured and supported through regular practice, enabling students to build short spoken and written responses. Cultural learning is introduced through authentic texts and topics, supporting curiosity and engagement.

Spring Term – Plural Forms, Possession and Description

Students develop their understanding of plural nouns and pronouns, agreement and possession using adjectives and possessive determiners. They learn to describe more than one person or object and to express belonging. Listening and reading activities support comprehension for gist and detail, while writing tasks encourage students to adapt model sentences to create their own short texts.

Spring and Summer Terms – Movement, Negation and Extended Sentences

Students learn to use verbs of movement, including *aller*, and apply prepositions to talk about places and destinations. They develop confidence with negation (*ne...pas*) and begin to form more complex questions, including inversion. The use of modal verbs enables students to express ability, obligation and desire. Students apply grammatical knowledge to talk about future intentions and plans, extending both spoken and written responses.

Summer Term – Consolidation and Cultural Understanding

The year concludes with consolidation of key phonics, grammar and vocabulary. Students revisit core structures and apply them to longer listening, reading and writing tasks. Cultural learning is extended through film and authentic French texts, supporting comprehension skills and cultural awareness.
