

French – Year 9

Curriculum Intent

In Year 9, French consolidates and extends students' linguistic knowledge, enabling them to communicate with greater accuracy, range and confidence. Students build on secure phonics and grammatical foundations from Years 7 and 8, developing more sophisticated sentence structures and working confidently across present, perfect and imperfect tenses. The curriculum is carefully sequenced to deepen grammatical understanding, support extended speaking and writing, and prepare students for continued language study through greater independence and control of the language.

What Students Will Study Across the Year

Autumn Term – Identity, Culture and Sentence Control

Students begin the year by consolidating phonics and sentence structures while exploring identity, personal description and cultural events. They work with two-verb structures, modal verbs and negation, and develop accuracy with adjective agreement and question formation. Vocabulary and grammar are applied to talking about who they are, what they know and what they do, supported by listening and reading activities linked to francophone culture, music and festivals.

Autumn and Spring Terms – Description, Travel and Daily Life

Students extend their grammatical range through plural noun and adjective formation, possessive adjectives and use of articles. They develop confidence using prepositions and infinitive constructions to talk about travel, routines and daily activities. Grammar is reinforced through structured speaking and writing tasks, while reading and listening activities increase in length and complexity. Cultural learning includes traditions and celebrations in France and the wider francophone world.

Spring Term – The Perfect Tense and Past Events

Students are introduced to the perfect tense using both *avoir* and *être*, learning to form past participles and apply agreement rules accurately. They practise forming and answering questions using intonation and *est-ce que*, and learn to position adverbs correctly in present and past tense sentences. Language is applied to talking about past experiences, events and incidents, with increasing emphasis on accuracy and detail.

Spring and Summer Terms – The Imperfect Tense and Comparison of Time Frames

Students develop understanding of the imperfect tense to describe what things used to be like and what people used to do. They compare present, perfect and imperfect tenses, learning when and why each tense is used. Students describe past routines, childhood experiences and contrasts between past and present, developing more extended spoken and written responses. This deepens grammatical understanding and supports more nuanced expression.

Summer Term – Pronouns, Prepositions and Extended Communication

Students work with direct object pronouns and pronoun placement, including contraction before vowels. They apply prepositions of place and movement accurately and use a wider range of verbs in extended sentences. Cultural learning explores historical and global contexts linked to France and the francophone world. The year concludes with consolidation of key grammar and phonics, enabling students to manipulate language with increasing independence.