

Hutton Church of England Grammar
School and Sixth Form

French Curriculum Information, Intent and Map



Curriculum Vision

The French curriculum at Hutton encourages students to discover and develop an appreciation of another language whilst deepening the understanding of their own. As a church school, through learning a foreign language, we aim to develop cultural awareness and encourage an understanding and a greater tolerance of others in the wider world. The KS3 curriculum provides a solid basis for transition to the skills required at GCSE level and beyond, whilst giving students the ability and confidence to manipulate and produce the target language. Students are encouraged to express themselves freely whilst giving and justifying points of view. The systematic teaching of grammar and phonics ensures that learners are able to do this confidently and accurately. Students are challenged to develop their resilience and work both independently and with others. Intent is for strong uptake at GCSE, improved uptake at KS5 and good achievement in all academic qualifications.

'And they were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the spirit gave them utterance...' (Act 2:4)

Languages Programmes of Study: Key Stage 3 National Curriculum in England

Purpose of Study

Learning a foreign language is a liberation from insularity and provides an opening to other cultures. A high-quality languages education should foster pupils' curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. The teaching should enable pupils to express their ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and in writing. It should also provide opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes, learn new ways of thinking and read great literature in the original language. Language teaching should provide the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries.

Aims

The national curriculum for languages aims to ensure that all pupils:

- understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources.
- speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation.
- can write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt.
- discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied.

Attainment Targets

By the end of key stage 3, pupils are expected to know, apply and understand the matters, skills and processes specified in the programme of study

Subject Content in Key Stage 3

Teaching may be of any modern foreign language and should build on the foundations of language learning laid at key stage 2, whether pupils continue with the same language or take up a new one. Teaching should focus on developing the breadth and depth of pupils' competence in listening, speaking, reading and writing, based on a sound foundation of core grammar and vocabulary. It should enable pupils to understand and communicate personal and information that goes beyond their immediate needs and interests, developing and justifying points of view in speech and writing, with increased spontaneity, independence and accuracy. It should provide suitable preparation for further study.

Pupils should be taught:

Grammar and vocabulary:

- identify and use tenses or other structures which convey the present, past, and future as appropriate to the language being studied.
- use and manipulate a variety of key grammatical structures and patterns, including voices and moods, as appropriate.
- develop and use a wide-ranging and deepening vocabulary that goes beyond their immediate needs and interests, allowing them to give and justify opinions and take part in discussion about wider issues.
- use accurate grammar, spelling and punctuation.

Linguistic competence:

- listen to a variety of forms of spoken language to obtain information and respond appropriately.
- transcribe words and short sentences that they hear with increasing accuracy.
- initiate and develop conversations, coping with unfamiliar language and unexpected responses, making use of important social conventions such as formal modes of address.
- express and develop ideas clearly and with increasing accuracy, both orally and in writing.
- speak coherently and confidently, with increasingly accurate pronunciation and intonation.
- read and show comprehension of original and adapted materials from a range of different sources, understanding the purpose, important ideas and details, and provide an accurate English translation of short, suitable material.
- read literary texts in the language [such as stories, songs, poems and letters], to stimulate ideas, develop creative expression and expand understanding of the language and culture.
- write prose using an increasingly wide range of grammar and vocabulary, write creatively to express their own ideas and opinions, and translate short written text accurately into the foreign language.

French — Key Stage 4 (GCSE)

Aims of the Course

At Key Stage 4 students continue to develop their knowledge and confidence in French while building on the foundations established at Key Stage 3. Language learning is both stimulating and rewarding and provides valuable communication skills in an increasingly globalised world. Through studying French, pupils will:

- Develop confidence communicating in another language.
- Expand their vocabulary and grammatical understanding.
- Improve their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.
- Gain an awareness and appreciation of other cultures and ways of life.

Course Overview

Qualification

GCSE French is studied across Years 10 and 11 and follows the Edexcel GCSE specification. The course builds upon the knowledge and skills developed in Years 7–9 and aims to develop students into confident and capable linguists.

What You Will Study

Students continue to develop the four key language skills - listening, speaking, reading and writing - through a range of engaging and relevant topics. Areas of study include:

- Media and technology
- Travel and tourism
- Lifestyle and wellbeing
- Everyday life and global issues

These topics allow pupils to practise communicating in real-life situations while extending their vocabulary and grammatical knowledge.

How French Is Taught

The GCSE course places a strong emphasis on developing language skills through a variety of learning approaches. Pupils will practise expressing themselves in increasingly sophisticated ways and will experience a wide range of vocabulary and contexts. Learning activities include:

- Individual written and spoken work.
- Paired and group activities to practise communication.
- Peer and self-assessment to improve accuracy and style.
- Regular opportunities to develop confidence in spoken French.

Assessment

Assessment takes place at the end of Year 11 and covers the four language skills:

- Listening – 25%
- Speaking – 25%
- Reading – 25%
- Writing – 25%

Students are entered for either Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) or Higher Tier (grades 4–9) and must take all papers at the same tier.

Why Study French?

Learning a language helps students develop cultural awareness and communication skills that are highly valued by universities and employers. It prepares pupils to take their place in a multilingual and multicultural world and can open the door to travel, international study and a wide range of careers. Language skills are particularly useful for careers in business, tourism, diplomacy, translation, education and international relations.

Curriculum Map

Key Stage 3

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Half Term 1	Baseline Assessment Introductions and Personal Information	Holidays	Identity and Culture
Half Term 2	Free Time	Picture based discussion on holidays	Identity and Culture
Half Term 3	Free Time	Transactional language	Home and local area
Half Term 4	School	Daily routine and chores	Home and local area
Half Term 5	School	Media	Free Time
Half Term 6	Town	Media continued. Study of French film Petit Nicolas.	Free Time

Curriculum Map - Key Stage 4

We follow the Edexcel French GCSE Specification

	Year 10	Year 11
Half Term 1	Holidays	Future plans and aspirations
Half Term 2	Holidays	Future plans and aspirations
Half Term 3	School	International Dimension
Half Term 4	School	International Dimension. Preparation for speaking exam; role play and photo card
Half Term 5	Daily Life and Celebrations	Writing exam techniques. Past paper practice.
Half Term 6	Daily Life and Celebrations	GCSE Examinations

Curriculum Map - Key Stage 5

We follow the AQA French A Level Specification

	Year 12	Year 13
Half Term 1	The changing family Grammar revision and development.	Politics, young people and the right to vote. The positive aspects of a diverse society. Study of the novel 'No et Moi'
Half Term 2	Cyber society Grammar revision and development. View the film 'La Haine'	Politics, young people and the right to vote / Protests and strikes – who has the power? The positive aspects of a diverse society / Life for the marginalised in society. Study of the novel 'No et Moi'
Half Term 3	The role of the volunteer Study of the film 'La Haine'	Protests and strikes – who has the power? Life for the marginalised in society. Individual Research Project.
Half Term 4	Heritage in Francophone countries Study of the film 'La Haine'	Politics and immigration Crime and punishment
Half Term 5	Contemporary Francophone Music Study of the film 'La Haine' Study of the novel 'No et Moi'	Photo card practice. Translation, reading and listening practice. Exam technique.
Half Term 6	Francophone cinema Study of the film 'La Haine' Study of the novel 'No et Moi'	A Level Examinations