

# French at St Mary's

Together we love, learn and flourish  
'Let all you do be done with love' 1 Corinthians 16:14

## Our vision for French

At St Mary's, we inspire children to approach French with courage, curiosity, and compassion. We follow the Kapow mixed-age scheme, adapting units to suit our learners and enriching them where appropriate. Our goal is to develop engaged, independent language learners with the confidence and skills to communicate effectively. The curriculum aims to instil a love of language learning, promote cultural awareness, and build confidence in speaking and writing French. Children are encouraged to approach French with enthusiasm and a sense of fun, expanding their vocabulary and challenging themselves. By exploring how language works and comparing French to English, they grow as curious, reflective learners. We aim to nurture compassion for other cultures and ways of life, building on the British values of tolerance and respect.

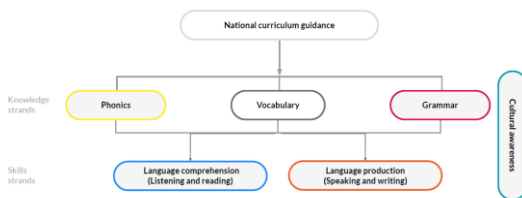
## French club

Children in Key Stage One are introduced to French through a dedicated **French club**, where they begin developing key language skills. Learning is reinforced through **repetition, contextual application, and play-based activities**, including songs and games, making language learning both engaging and effective.



## How is French taught at St Mary's?

French is taught through two key strands: Language comprehension (Listening and reading) and Language production (Speaking and writing), with additional knowledge strands of phonics, vocabulary and grammar running through the units. Through the French scheme, pupils are given opportunities to communicate for practical purposes around familiar subjects and routines. The scheme provides balanced opportunities for communication in both spoken and written French.



The scheme is a spiral curriculum, with key skills and vocabulary revisited repeatedly with increasing complexity, allowing pupils to revise and build on their previous learning. Lessons incorporate a range of teaching strategies from independent tasks, paired and groupwork including role-play, language games and language

detective work. In upper key stage 2 especially, the scheme of work focuses on developing what we term 'language detective skills' and developing an understanding of French grammar, and key vocabulary rather than on committing to memory vast amounts of French vocabulary.

### **Learning through talk**

Kapow Primary lessons provide pupils with opportunities for exploratory talk during their learning. This involves thinking aloud, questioning, discussing, and collaboratively building ideas.

### **Learning to talk**

Similarly, developing oracy skills is essential for pupils to express and articulate themselves effectively across various contexts and settings, including formal ones like public speaking, debates, and interviews.