

Year 7 Curriculum Intent for French

At Dixons Cottingley we develop students to lead successful and happy lives and make a positive contribution to their community. Our curriculum in each year is designed to provide experiences, opportunities, knowledge and skills that enrich and challenge our students. We understand that the curriculum is key to determining the life chances and choices for our students and therefore we will not compromise on providing the very best. We achieve this in French through the below:

By the end of Year 7 students at Dixons Cottingley studying will be exposed to the following:

- The importance of learning languages
- The phonetical make-up of the French language
- The basic grammar of the French language
- A variety of authentic French texts (in both written and oral formats)
- Aspects of the culture and history of France and La Francophonie (French speaking countries)
- The similarities and differences between the French and English language

By the end of Year 7 students at Dixons Cottingley studying French will be taught the following knowledge and skills:

- Students will develop the ability to pronounce words correctly in French through the systematic teaching of French phonics so they can speak with confidence.
- Students will develop the ability to communicate orally in French, with some fluency and spontaneity, in order to be able to hold a basic conversation in French as well as be able to describe pictures, photographs and take part in a role play.
- Students will develop the skills of writing in French, communicating effectively and creatively for a variety of purposes, writing short texts (30-70 words) using simple and compound sentences to explain opinions and wishes as well as describe key events.
- Students will develop the skills of reading in French and be able to read out loud familiar words /phrases and simple sentences with confidence & good pronunciation.
- Students will be able to read, recognise and understand cognates, near cognates and pre-learnt words in short phrases and simple sentences.
- Students will be able to use knowledge of grammar & the context of a spoken or written text to work out the meaning of new language.
- Students will be able to understand opinions and some details from a written or spoken passage / literacy text and authentic materials about familiar topics.
- Students will be able to answer multiple choice questions in French based on a short written or spoken passage in French.
- Students will develop the ability to re-use new vocab, phrases and structures they learn through reading in their speaking & writing.
- Students will learn how to transcribe accurately single sounds, words, opinions and short phrases.
- Students will develop their listening skills and be able to recognise and understand key sounds, words, opinions and short spoken passages.
- Students will learn how to understand opinions and some details from a spoken passage containing familiar language with repetition.
- Students will develop skills of translating known words, opinions and short phrases accurately between French and English, applying their grammatical knowledge of language structures and context.
- Students will develop skills on how to learn new vocabulary effectively.
- Students will be taught how to use a bilingual dictionary, so that they can independently find new words and communicate the messages they want to.
- Students will also learn about the culture of France and French speaking countries. In Year 7 students will be able to:
 - describe the main festivals of Christmas, Easter & Bastille Day
 - name a variety of French speaking sports men and women
 - explain what La Francophonie is
 - recall 10 to 15 facts about France

In order to truly appreciate the subject and create deep schema, French has been sequenced with the following rationale:

- At the beginning of year 7 students will learn about the importance of studying and speaking languages into today's global society.
- During the whole of year 7, students will be taught French phonics. This will help to support and develop all other linguistic skills.



- Year 7 will start with a focus on describing themselves and their family. This will allow students to consolidate any prior language learning at KS1 and /or KS2. This scheme of work introduces the basic grammar principles of French and key phrases as well as the top 50 commonest words in the French language.
- Students will then explore the theme of technology and learn about verb formation when describing what they do on the Internet.
- As students learn about French meal-times and food, more tenses are introduced as stock phrases to give students the confidence to describe key events and start being more creative and spontaneous when writing and speaking in French.
- The last unit in Year 7 is sport. Students learn more about famous French speaking sports men and women, how to book a football ticket, the Tour De France and experience playing French boules. As July approaches, the French Revolution is introduced and celebrated to tie in with 14th July (Bastille Day).

The French curriculum at Cottingley has been influenced by:

- The latest research developed by NCELP and Dixons MFL Hub.
- The topics students find interesting.
- The calendar of French customs, festivals and La Francophonie.

Our French curriculum ensures that social disadvantage is addressed through:

- Disadvantaged students will follow the same curricular pathway as it is important that they are provided with access to the same body of French knowledge and cultural capital. They will be supported through quality first teaching and intervention and support as required. The use of French regalia, authentic texts and resources will help their engagement and progress. Students will also be provided with a booklet containing the key facts about France, French speaking countries, famous people and key historical events.
- SEN students follow the same curricular pathway as it is important that they are provided with access to the same body of French knowledge. This is supported through clearly differentiated teaching which will include a multi-sensory approach.

Our belief is that homework is used for deliberate practice of what has been taught in lessons. We also use retrieval practice and spaced revision to support all students with committing knowledge to long term memory. This will be supported in year 7 by a common framework of learning and understanding. Commitment to memory of this knowledge will be supported through the interspacing of knowledge, with regular retrieval practice and interleaving previously taught content into new content throughout the course.

Opportunities to build an understanding of social, moral and ethical issues are developed alongside links to the wider world, including careers, through:

1. Equipping students with systematic and powerful knowledge about the French language and culture so that they are able to understand other cultures and value diversity.
2. Developing confident individuals who can participate positively and confidently in a foreign language.
3. The learning of the importance of languages in order to help guide and develop citizens who make a positive contribution to an inclusive, multi-lingual and multi-cultural society.
4. Giving students the opportunity to be reflective about their own home spoken languages and how they can use their natural linguistic skills in a new foreign language.
5. Being given the opportunity to understand and appreciate the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped France and the French speaking world.
6. Supporting the learning in other curricular areas such as Maths, English, Geography, History, Sport and Drama. Geography is supported through understanding of major towns in France and the French speaking countries around the world. History is supported through the study of the French Revolution and Sport is supported through the understanding of popular sports in France. French also supports learning in Drama when students are acting in role plays when speaking in French and during the first cycle students learn the numbers in French and apply them to simple mathematical equations. English is supported throughout the scheme as words the same and similar to English are regularly discussed. In addition to this, KS2 grammar knowledge is continually revisited and applied when learning French.

A true love of French is developed by teaching beyond the domain of the classroom. Examples of such content:

- Reading for pleasure in French.
- Taking part in the British Council Language Challenge.
(https://www.britishcouncil.org/sites/default/files/the_great_french_language_challenge.pdf)
- Taking part in the Dixons Cup Spelling Bee.
- Following personal interests in French e.g. football, music, cooking.

Further Information can be found in:

- Long Term Plans



- Knowledge Navigators
- NCELP
- British Council
- Sue Cave Physical French Phonics

