

Curriculum Overview – Year 7 French Access

Sequencing Rationale

Our aim is for every student to have the experience of learning a foreign language to widen horizons, build confidence and encourage multi-culturalism. The Access curriculum is designed to introduce the basics of the French language whilst focussing on communication and sharing the culture of France. Students follow the year 7 French curriculum topics – greetings, describing themselves and family, school day, hobbies and traditions such as Christmas and Easter. However, they concentrate on understanding simple, core spoken and written French and communicating with their teacher and each other. There is a strong emphasis on supporting their English literacy by using the same literary terms and concentrating on spellings in English rather than French for vocabulary.

Curriculum goals – what will students be able to do at the end of this year?

- Say hello, goodbye and how they are in French
- Understand and use some classroom language – *je ne sais pas*
- Recognise genders of nouns by their articles (*le, la, les* and *un/ une*)
- Answer simple questions to give some personal details – name, age, where you live
- Count to 20
- Understand and express simple opinions
- Know some positive and negative generic adjectives
- Recognise basic connectives to extend sentences
- Recognise high frequency phrase *c'est*
- Request food and drink using *je voudrais*
- Understand simple short texts on familiar topics with cognates and context
- Show cultural awareness in the following areas – geography of France, school, food, Christmas, Tour de France, Bastille Day

Key skills, knowledge and understanding – what will students learn this year?

- To use resources for support such as their vocabulary booklet and class help mats
- To work with a partner in order to develop communication skills through listening and reading.
- The importance of silent letters in pronunciation of French and simple sound patterns
- What a cognate is and how useful they are in language learning
- Basic greetings, personal questions and know how to respond
- Classroom instructions and the names of classroom items
- Numbers, days, months and colours
- The concept of gender and its implications in French for nouns, articles and adjectives
- Simple opinions – like/ don't like/ love/ hate and *c'est...*
- To recognise the negative using *ne ... pas*
- A range of high frequency generic adjectives and how they can change in French
- The connectives – *et, mais* and *parce que*
- How to use *je voudrais* to request/ order things (French breakfast)
- Use listening and reading strategies such as cognates, context, voice patterns and known words

How will more able students be extended and challenged

- Use a wider range of adjectives beyond cognates
- Not looking at resources automatically, but respond from memory where possible
- Acting as teaching assistants and explaining things to classmates and model good work
- Writing tasks with less support (more gaps/ words not provided) and extension reading tasks

How will disadvantaged students master key knowledge and understanding

- By starting from a secure understanding of the concepts in English, linguistic and cultural
- Regular exposure to high frequency and generic (non-topic) vocab
- Regular use of vocab booklets
- Listening/ writing tasks with more support (multiple choice answers/ less gaps)