



# MFL at Ashton Gate Primary School



Modern Foreign Languages introduces children to basic language skills, such as listening, speaking, reading and writing. The aim is to develop children's communication skills in a foreign language and to foster an interest in and enthusiasm for language learning.

## Intent

The learning of a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience. Pupils develop communication and literacy skills that lay the foundation for future language learning. They develop linguistic competence, extend their knowledge of how language works and explore differences and similarities between French and English. Learning another language raises awareness of the multilingual and multicultural world and introduces an international dimension to pupils' learning, giving them an insight into their own culture and those of others. The learning of a foreign language provides a medium for cross-curricular links and for reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other subjects.

We aim for all pupils to:

- Understand and respond to written and spoken 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.
- Begin to write using the variety of vocabulary and grammatical structures that they have learnt.
- Discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language.
- Develop their curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world.

### Our School Drivers

MFL learning at Ashton Gate Primary School develops our school drivers in a range of ways.

#### **Cultural diversity**

- **Fosters empathy and open-mindedness:** Children learn about different ways of thinking, living, and communicating, helping them respect other cultures.
- **Reduces stereotypes and prejudice:** Understanding another culture through its language encourages tolerance and fairness.
- **Encourages global awareness:** Pupils see that their way of life is just one of many, helping them appreciate the wider world.
- **Normalizes multilingualism:** Learning a language early makes cultural and linguistic diversity feel natural.
- **Supports future communication:** Children build skills for connecting, collaborating, and including people from all backgrounds.

## Independence

- **Boosts confidence:** Mastering a new language gives children a sense of achievement and encourages them to take on new challenges.
- **Improves communication:** Learning a language helps children organize their thoughts and express ideas clearly, boosting confidence in talking with others.
- **Prepares for real life:** Knowing another language helps children navigate different situations, travel, and connect with people from other cultures.

## Equity

- **Builds inclusive attitudes:** Learning about different languages and cultures helps children respect and appreciate everyone.
- **Reduces discrimination:** Understanding other cultures makes children less likely to hold stereotypes or biases.
- **Supports multilingual students:** Valuing languages in school helps children who speak other languages at home feel included and respected.
- **Provides equal access to opportunities:** Language skills open doors to future education, travel, and careers for all children.
- **Levels the playing field:** Learning a language together gives everyone an equal start, encouraging cooperation and shared success.

## Growth mindset

- **'Rise High Together':** Pupils use Ashton Gate characteristics in MFL lessons to support each other and work as a team.
- **Embraces mistakes:** Children learn that making mistakes is part of learning and keeps them trying.
- **Builds resilience and persistence:** Learning a new language helps children understand that abilities grow with practice.
- **Promotes effort over talent:** Pupils see their progress over time and learn that hard work leads to improvement.
- **Normalizes learning as a journey:** Children understand that growth takes time, encouraging patience and a positive attitude toward learning.

## Implementation

### The CUSP Curriculum

At Ashton Gate, our CUSP French curriculum is designed to develop confident, curious young linguists. Lessons are carefully planned to revisit core areas like phonics, grammar, reading, writing, speaking, and vocabulary, ensuring children build strong, lasting skills.

CUSP French focuses on real-world language that children can use in meaningful contexts, such as discussing the environment, wellbeing, and travel. The curriculum goes beyond vocabulary, giving

pupils the building blocks they need to communicate effectively and think like a linguist.

Clear learning routines and structures help pupils focus on the most important content, while Knowledge Notes support both teaching and learning. This approach, grounded in research and evidence-led practice, ensures children deepen their understanding, gain confidence, and enjoy learning French.

The CUSP MFL curriculum has carefully-mapped vocabulary combined with a clear progression of both knowledge and skills. This cumulative curriculum design allows opportunities for children to think hard and apply their learning in different contexts.

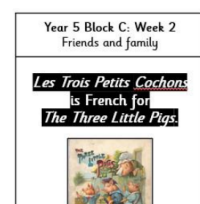
Structure of each block	Vocabulary and Phonics	Oracy	Reading	Writing
Week 1	✓	✓		
Week 2		✓	✓	
Week 3	✓		✓	
Week 4	✓			✓
Week 5	✓	✓	✓	
Week 6	Flexible content for revisiting and enrichment			

### CUSP French long-term sequence

There is a significant focus on revisiting throughout the curriculum with the aim of pupils mastering key knowledge that can be built on as they move through the programme of study.

Year	Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D	Block E	Block F
3	Greetings and the classroom	Colours, emotions and numbers 0 – 10	Introductions and questions	Working together (Following instructions)	Playing together (Asking to play)	Eating together
4	The calendar (Days, months, date)	Colours, emotions and numbers 0 – 20	Items from daily life (Items for a day trip)	Learning together (Subjects and school)	The natural world (Animals and plants)	Celebration (Bastille Day)
5	Local places (Amenities)	Emotions and numbers 0 – 100	Friends and family	Working together	Playing together (Sports and hobbies)	Eating together (Preparing a meal)
6	Where I live (Homes)	Emotions and numbers – beyond 100	Items from daily life (Money and personal effects)	Learning together	The natural world (The environment)	Visiting France (Directions and transport)

To support vocabulary teaching, dual coding of images and words are used. As well as this, knowledge notes and knowledge organisers are used in lessons to aid understanding and support retrieval of prior learning. Teachers are able to



use CUSP resources to support their subject knowledge and lesson design, tailoring their lessons to be inclusive for their individual classes.

The subject leader will have ongoing opportunities to collaborate with other subject specialists across Cathedral Schools Trust to share best practice and support professional development. During lessons, pupils are assessed through learning loops, retrieval practice, and formative assessment such as quizzing, with outcomes used to guide teaching through whole-class feedback.

## Impact

Our MFL curriculum helps children develop a love for languages and an appreciation for different cultures, while building skills that support learning across the curriculum and beyond. Pupils will make strong progress in French, developing accurate pronunciation, a growing vocabulary, and confidence in reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Through enquiry-based activities and regular practice, children become independent language learners, able to use their skills in real-life situations. The curriculum also sparks curiosity about the wider world, encourages cultural understanding, and shows how language connects people globally.