

French Curriculum at Brownhills Ormiston Academy



The department's vision

- Here at Brownhills Ormiston Academy, we believe that learning a language is an asset for life, a key skill that can open many doors of opportunities and give you a competitive edge in the world of work. Our French curriculum ensures that our students are equipped to become competent and coherent linguists at the end of their language learning journey in secondary school.
- In the French department, we endeavour that all pupils become more confident in the four modalities of language learning thus developing their listening, **oracy, reading** and writing skills and also their **literacy skills**. To accomplish this goal, vocabulary, grammar and phonics are taught rigorously across both KS3 and KS4. Skills gained in the French classroom are transferable across all subjects.
- All pupils are encouraged to consider their own **British Values** whilst also being respectful and curious of **the values** of other culture and adding to their **cultural capital** knowledge and understanding in the process. We want them to be curious about the world around them and enjoy the challenge in their lessons.
- At the end of KS3 we would like them to be able to communicate with and understand a native speaker at a basic level. At the end of KS4 we would like them to develop more expert language skills and also to develop the foundations for continuing their language learning journey or for going on to learn other languages if they choose to.

Sequencing of lessons

During the two Key Stages different themes are introduced and revisited during the course allowing for development of vocabulary, phonics and grammar at different levels. They may return to the same grammar point but at a higher level of understanding eg: conjugation of a verb is first introduced with the 1st, 2nd and the 3rd person narrative and at a later stage, students would be required to learn the whole paradigm.

- During Key Stage 3 the lessons taught provide the students with a sound foundation of core grammar, vocabulary and phonics. We aim to develop their ability to listen, speak, read, and write in French and do so at least in three-time frames. We teach them to give their opinion and justify their point of view, given either orally or in a written form. They are also taught to listen to and read texts from a variety of different sources.
- During KS4 the pupils cover some familiar topics and are also introduced to new topics as well under the 3 Themes for GCSE (Theme 1 – Identity and

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Culture, Theme 2 – Local, national and international global areas of interest, Theme 3 – Current and future study and employment). They are taught to express and develop their ideas in more depth and with increasing accuracy and using higher level structures, phrases and vocabulary and a variety of tenses and time frames.

Assessment

Students receive regular formal and informal assessments to improve their recall skills and to recap previous knowledge. Peer and self-assessment are used to encourage reflection and awareness of how to move forward with their learning so they can understand how they can achieve their full potential.

Key stage 3: At KS3 pupils will complete two summative assessments per year in addition to ongoing assessment for learning in the classroom. Formative assessments would include frequent vocabulary tests, cold calling in lessons, mini whiteboards, questioning, low stake quizzing and a piece of writing on the theme studied during the block. Speaking is also assessed during lessons through role plays, challenges and questioning.

Key stage 4 At KS4 students will be assessed the four modalities at the end of each block of learning whilst also having regular recall quizzes. Pupils take a GCSE exam at the end of the course, in which the 4 Assessment Objectives are examined, each AO having equal weighting (25%).