



Quality of Education
Curriculum Intent Statement
Subject: French



CURRICULUM VISION

Studying French at Bedale opens a world of new possibilities and opportunities, and we aim to broaden students' horizons and equip them with a solid foundation of knowledge and communication skills to encourage them to flourish with courage, commitment and compassion as independent global citizens. With nearly 230 million speakers of French worldwide, it is imperative that we adapt to keep up with the global community in which we live. We therefore aim to foster creativity and bravery in students' language use, nurture their confidence to use and adapt what they know, whilst providing a solid foundation of knowledge to work from. Through languages, we promote students' curiosity, and deepen their understanding, not only of their own identity and culture but also those of other countries. For those who wish to expand their knowledge we aim to support in any way we can, their interests in further languages.

CURRICULUM RATIONALE

In KS3, the curriculum is designed to ensure all students are able to participate from the outset, with a 'have a go' attitude, across subjects relating to many aspects of their life and interests in the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Our new Year 7 students come from a wide range of feeder primary schools – and have received a varying experience of Languages at Key Stages 1 and 2. Therefore, the first part of our Key Stage 3 curriculum is designed to embed the key linguistic skills needed by all pupils to communicate. In French we start with sounds, building to words, phrases, sentences and eventually longer texts. These skills are built upon in year 8 and move on to include studying past and future events. Throughout Key Stage 3, students are exposed to GCSE-style assessment activities, including the course-specific tasks such as describing a photograph and the vocabulary necessary to achieve detailed and strong responses. By practising and developing these skills with new language and linguistic tools, with the aim of developing a level of spontaneity and confidence.

At Key Stage 4, students follow the AQA (9-1) French course. We believe that this is the right course for our students as it provides a logical progression from Key Stage 3 taking a thematic approach. Students journey through the topics of 'Culture and Identity', 'the World we live in', looking outwards to French speaking countries, like Switzerland and Madagascar, amongst others and departments overseas, like l'Île de la Réunion, and then through 'Education and the World of Work' we look at careers and how students could use a language in the long term. Plans are in motion to offer residential trips this to France, if possible, linking with our twin town in France, Azay-sur-Cher over the course of the next few years.