

SINAI JEWISH PRIMARY SCHOOL
'Big School, Big Heart, Big Opportunities'

FRENCH CURRICULUM

INTENT

We aim to empower KS2 children with the ability to express themselves in a new linguistic landscape, enabling them to articulate thoughts and ideas through the French language. We aim to provide immersive learning experiences that not only teach the language but also celebrate its cultural context. By introducing language chunks and utilising 'Physical French Phonics', we focus on developing listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Our curriculum is designed to make cross-curricular connections, reinforcing knowledge gained in other subjects and highlighting the relevance of French in a broader educational context. We aspire to build confidence in our students, fostering a can-do attitude towards learning French and encouraging them to use the language spontaneously.

IMPLEMENTATION

French lessons at Sinai provide KS2 students with a rich learning experience, delivered fortnightly for 50-60 minutes by a specialist teacher. The curriculum, highlighted by key vocabulary displays and student work, adopts a 6-part lesson format designed with clear objectives and a defined purpose. Starting each term, sentence builders introduce target patterns, serving as a foundation for diverse activities that include Physical French Phonics for pronunciation, a grammar focus that delves into linguistic features and a mix of receptive processing and structured production to bolster all four language skills. An interactive calendar integrates daily French into routine conversations about the date, weather and seasons, while creative engagement through songs, stories and assignments, including recordings of spoken language, enriches the learning experience. Supporting resources, such as the sentence builders' website and Google Classroom, offer online homework options and interactive learning opportunities, complete with competitions to enhance motivation and participation.

IMPACT

The impact of our French curriculum is evident in the students' growing confidence in using the French language and their developing enthusiasm for language learning. They acquire a solid foundation in the four key language skills, enabling them to communicate effectively and appreciate the cultural nuances of the French-speaking world. Through immersive and interactive learning experiences, students develop a deeper understanding of the importance of languages in global communication and cultural exchange. Our approach nurtures a positive attitude towards learning new languages, equipping students with the skills and confidence needed for future language studies. By fostering an appreciation for French, we prepare our students to become curious, open-minded individuals ready to explore the rich tapestry of the world's languages and cultures.

BIG OPPORTUNITIES

Our French curriculum is designed to offer pupils expansive learning opportunities that extend beyond traditional classroom activities, fostering an engaging and interactive environment. By integrating conversations with puppets, we provide a creative outlet for students to practice speaking in a fun and less formal setting. Competitions hosted on the Sentence Builders' website not only encourage mastery of sentence structures but also add a competitive edge to learning, motivating students through games. Karaoke-style songs further immerse students in the language, enhancing their listening and pronunciation skills through music. A dedicated lunchtime club for sentence building allows for additional practice time, supporting students in refining their language construction abilities. The incorporation of Physical French Phonics emphasises the importance of correct pronunciation, offering a kinetic approach to learning sounds. Beyond French, the curriculum opens doors to learning up to 13 other languages on Sentence Builders, broadening students' linguistic horizons and fostering a love for language learning. This comprehensive approach ensures a rich, varied, and stimulating language learning experience for all pupils.

KEY CONCEPTS, KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

Key Concepts: Providing Personal Information, Expressing Feelings & Opinions, Description of things, places, behaviour & people, Talking about Countries & Languages, Describing natural phenomena

In our French curriculum, the integration of our key concepts pivotal to broadening students' linguistic and cultural horizons. Students build foundational communication skills, fostering confidence and self-expression. Expressing feelings and opinions enhances their emotional intelligence and critical thinking, encouraging a deeper engagement with the language. The detailed description of various subjects enriches their vocabulary and observational skills, promoting a nuanced understanding of the world. Discussing countries and languages expands their global awareness, instilling a sense of curiosity and respect for diversity. Additionally, describing natural phenomena integrates environmental consciousness into their learning.

ASSESSMENT

We employ a multifaceted approach to assessment, emphasizing continuous evaluation and active participation. Each lesson involves assessing students' contributions to oral activities and their spontaneous application of the target language, highlighting the importance of communication. Regular mini-assessments are conducted to evaluate pronunciation, listening and reading skills, incorporating both familiar and new language elements. To assess writing skills, we utilise mini white boards, allowing children to demonstrate their ability to write from memory. Additionally, we implement summative assessments at the end of each term, using the material on the sentence builder as a basis. These comprehensive assessments cover all four key language skills, including a specific focus on pronunciation as well as grammar, to ensure a well-rounded evaluation of each child's language proficiency.