



## French

### Intent

At the Wye Forest Federation we believe that the learning of a language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our children and gives them the opportunity to understand belonging in a wider diverse world. The learning of a modern foreign language helps them to develop communication skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing, with an aim of making substantial progress in one language and encouragement of other cultures. In addition, children’s knowledge of how language works will be developed to lay the foundations for further language learning in future. We believe that learning another language gives children a new and broader perspective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own cultures and those of others. The teaching of French is centred on our four drivers; Belonging, Independence, Diversity and Active Adventure and are at the heart of our learning.

### Implementation

At the Wye Forest Federation, we teach French using the software programme ‘Salut!’ It is taught to all learners in Keys stage 2 and is adapted to suit their needs. Children are supported and encouraged to develop their speaking and listening skills through vocabulary and conversational work, singing activities and games. As their confidence and skills grow, children record their work through pictures, captions and sentences. Practical activities, songs and games are used to help improve memory and recall. In the classroom wherever possible instructions are given in French to expose children to the language as much as possible in day to day contexts. Visual prompts are used to support children when translating new vocabulary. French culture and customs is celebrated through specific ‘French Days’ in the school years and French speaking experts and visitors are invited into school to add to the children’s experience of hearing the language in its entirety.

### Impact

The teaching of French at the Wye Forest Federation instils a respect for and enjoyment of modern foreign languages. The learning of French helps to stimulate language development, fluency and versatility. This in turn will enable children to communicate with confidence and proficiency. The regular delivery of French promotes an appreciation of the diverse world in which we live and enables children to speak in a nativelike way. It also encourages cognitive advantages which follow from becoming bilingual. These include; the development of reading skills, boosts in memory and the enrichment of vocabulary – along with building and maintaining cultural connections with the world.