St James’ KS2 French – Intent, Implementation & Impact (Kapow Primary)

Intent

At St James’ Catholic Primary School, we aim to foster a lifelong love of languages through the teaching of French in KS2. Our intent is to:

* Provide a high-quality languages education that inspires curiosity and deepens understanding of the world.
* Develop pupils’ ability to communicate in French with increasing confidence through speaking, listening, reading, and writing.
* Ensure progression in language knowledge, vocabulary acquisition, and grammatical understanding across KS2.
* Promote intercultural understanding and appreciation of the diversity of French-speaking countries.
* Prepare pupils for further language learning in KS3 and beyond.

The Kapow French scheme provides a clear structure that supports the National Curriculum aims by revisiting and developing vocabulary and grammar through a spiralled, progressive curriculum.

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Implementation

The Kapow scheme is delivered through weekly French lessons across Years 3–6. It is implemented with fidelity to ensure consistency and progression in teaching and learning:

* Progressive Curriculum: Lessons are sequenced to build on prior knowledge, revisiting and extending vocabulary, sentence structure, and grammar through practical themes (e.g., greetings, food, holidays).
* Five Key Strands:  
  + Speaking and Pronunciation
  + Listening
  + Reading and Writing
  + Grammar
  + Intercultural Understanding
* Language Detective Skills: Embedded across all lessons to support pupils in decoding new vocabulary independently.
* Use of Native Speaker Videos: Supports accurate pronunciation and builds listening skills.
* Interactive and Practical Tasks: Songs, games, role-play, and written work engage different learning styles.
* Assessment for Learning: Teachers assess through formative strategies during lessons and track progression using Kapow’s assessment criteria at the end of each unit.
* Staff CPD: Kapow provides video tutorials and lesson support to increase teacher subject knowledge and confidence.

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Impact

By the end of KS2, pupils will:

* Demonstrate growing confidence in speaking French aloud, including using accurate pronunciation and intonation.
* Understand and respond to spoken and written French from a range of authentic sources.
* Write short phrases and sentences with correct grammatical structures and a developing awareness of tenses.
* Engage in short conversations, asking and answering questions, and expressing opinions.
* Show an appreciation for the cultural practices of French-speaking countries.
* Be ready for continued language learning in KS3, with a strong foundation in the four key skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

We measure impact through:

* Pupil voice: Interviews and discussions about their learning.
* Teacher assessment: Based on Kapow’s progression framework.
* Work scrutiny: Reviewing written work and engagement.
* Monitoring: Lesson observations and planning reviews.
* Cultural awareness: Participation in French-related events and knowledge of global francophone cultures.