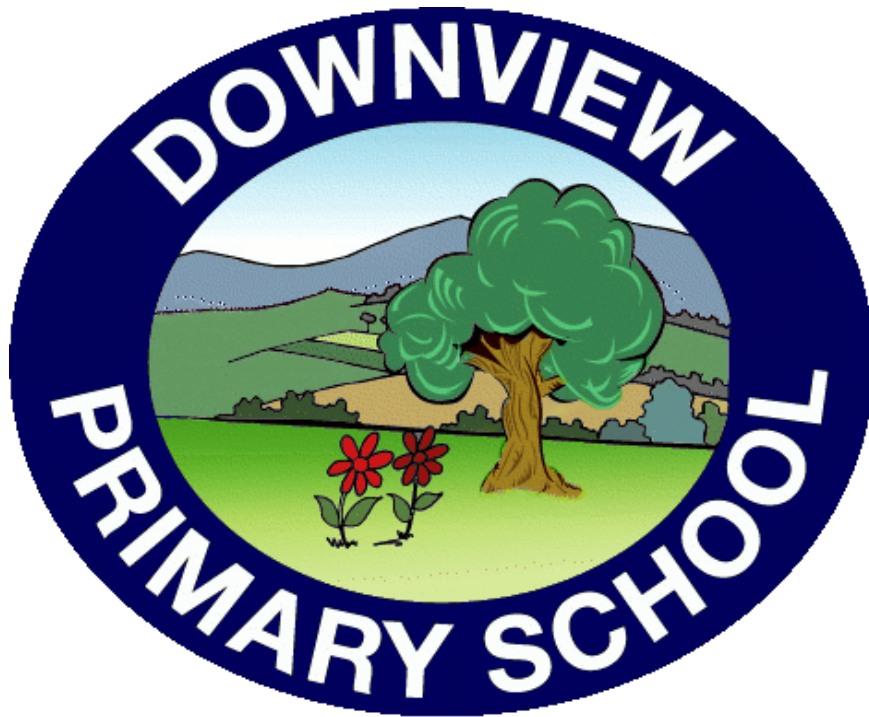


Lead member of staff	Mrs R Langley
Date of publication	September 2026
Review date	September 2028



French Policy

September 2026

Downview School: French Policy

Introduction

The purpose of learning French at Downview is to introduce children to the reality that there are a variety of languages spoken around the world. Many children are lucky enough to be brought up in multilingual homes, but for many, it will be the first opportunity to expose them to other languages and other cultures.

At Downview, we seek to nurture children's curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. Our teaching of French should enable pupils to express their ideas and thoughts and to understand and respond to people, both in speech and in writing. It should also provide opportunities for children to communicate for practical purposes, learn new ways of thinking and be exposed to literature in the original language.

Most importantly, language learning at Primary level should provide a foundation and enthusiasm for continued language learning, as children move on to Secondary education.

Aims

Our aims of teaching French are for the children to:

- Foster an interest in learning another language;
- Become aware that language has a structure, and that structure differs from one language to another;
- Develop speaking and listening skills;
- Gain enjoyment, pride and a sense of achievement;
- Explore and apply strategies to improve their learning;
- Explore their own cultural identities and those of others.

Through French we can also:

- Improve pupils' skills in Literacy, Numeracy and ICT
- Develop pupils' critical thinking skills
- Promote pupils' awareness and understanding of gender, cultural, spiritual and moral issues
- Develop pupils as active citizens

Organisation of French within the Curriculum

The Kapow French scheme of work is designed with six strands that run throughout.

These are:

- Speaking and pronunciation
- Listening
- Reading and writing
- Grammar
- Intercultural understanding
- Language detective skills

[The Kapow condensed curriculum](#) document shows which of our units cover each of the National curriculum attainment targets as well as each of the strands. Through Kapow Primary's French scheme, pupils are given opportunities to communicate for practical purposes around familiar subjects and routines. The scheme provides balanced opportunities for communication in both spoken and written French, although in Year 3 the focus is on developing oral skills, before incorporating written French in Year 4 and beyond. The Kapow Primary scheme is a spiral curriculum, with key skills and vocabulary revisited repeatedly with increasing complexity, allowing pupils to revise and build on their previous learning. Cross-curricular links are included throughout the French units, allowing children to make connections and apply their language skills to other areas of their learning.

Teaching & Learning - Strategies for the teaching of French

Lessons incorporate a range of teaching strategies from independent tasks, paired and group work including role-play, language games and language detective work. The scheme of work focuses on developing 'language detective skills' and developing an understanding of French grammar, rather than on committing to memory vast amounts of French vocabulary.

At Downview, we also hold a French Day to explore language learning and intercultural understanding, as a whole school.

The role of the French co-ordinator is to:

- Support colleagues in teaching the subject content and developing their skills in planning, teaching and assessing French.
- Renew, update and oversee the audit of resources needed to deliver the curriculum.
- Monitor and evaluate the learning and teaching of French.
- Develop assessment and record keeping ensuring progression and continuity.
- Keep abreast of developments in the teaching and learning of French.

Assessment

[The Kapow Progression of skills and knowledge](#) shows the skills and knowledge that are taught within each year group and how these skills develop to ensure that attainment targets are securely met by the end of Key Stage 2.

SEN

Differentiated guidance is available for every lesson to ensure that lessons can be accessed and enjoyed by all. In order to help pupils, retain their French learning, we provide information about how to incorporate French into the classroom environment every day in our 'During the week' sections. Strong subject knowledge is vital for staff to be able to deliver a highly effective languages curriculum.

Equal Opportunities

All pupils at Downview have equal access to the facilities available, regardless of gender or nationality. When working in groups the teacher ensures that children take turns and share the equipment fairly. Teachers also give pupils opportunities to work individually to complete tasks by themselves.

Resources

The Kapow French scheme of work

Monitoring and Evaluation

Lesson Observations

TDM – Staff training

Work sampling

Pupil voice

Reviewed: September 2026

To be reviewed: September 2028