



**BUTTSBURY
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

AN ACADEMY SCHOOL

Foreign Languages Policy

Approved by:	Headteacher
Last reviewed on:	Spring 2026
Next review due by:	Spring 2029

Maximum Effort for Maximum Achievement

Introduction

At Buttsbury Primary School, we teach a foreign language to our children as part of the normal school curriculum. We do this for several reasons:

- We believe that many children really enjoy learning to speak another language.
- We also believe that the earlier a child is exposed to a foreign language, the faster the language in question is acquired.
- It is also important for children to gain a cultural understanding of other countries and lifestyles.

Aims of Foreign Languages

Buttsbury Primary School offers a relevant, broad, vibrant and ambitious foreign languages curriculum that will inspire and excite our pupils using a wide range of topics and themes. All pupils will be expected to achieve their full potential by encouraging high expectations and excellent standards in their foreign language learning. We intend for the children's cultural awareness to be developed through the teaching of a foreign language and for them to understand their place in the wider world.

Curriculum Intent

At Buttsbury Primary School, the intent of our French curriculum is to enable pupils to use the French language in real life situations by holding conversations with their peers and communicating through writing. The teaching of French further encourages children to appreciate another culture whilst developing wider, transferable language skills in preparation for Key Stage Three study and beyond.

Curriculum Implementation

We have a broad and balanced French curriculum at Buttsbury Primary School where children are given the opportunity to master their learning by 'applying what they have learnt to a new situation'.

Units of learning are blocked, well sequenced and build on previous learning. Lessons ensure that progress is achieved through small steps, allowing children to develop their subject knowledge, consolidate skills and apply their learning.

In Reception and Key Stage One, pupils focus on building speaking and listening skills. In Key Stage Two, pupils build language skills through all four strands of speaking, listening, reading and writing.

At Buttsbury Primary School, French lessons may include:

- Listening to French spoken words, phrases and sentences
- Choral repetition of songs and rhymes to acquire new vocabulary
- Implementing new vocabulary via practised conversations with peers
- Reading authentic French texts, inclusive of rhymes and fairytales
- Translating from French to English and vice versa
- Applying acquired vocabulary to write for a purpose, such as to a pen pal
- Developing a growing understanding of grammar, building from nouns, articles and determiners (which indicate gender), to plurals, the negative form, conjugated verbs and adjectival agreement and conjunctions

Curriculum Impact

Our curriculum allows a broad and fun opening into the French language, which provides a strong baseline to build upon in their future education. Children will be able to greet others in French, as well as respond to basic commands and questions. As a result of our curriculum, children have a basic grounding in the fundamentals of French grammar such as gender, word class and word order. They are able to compare and contrast English and French grammar and apply the rules within their work. As a result of our French curriculum, children are equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills for the next stage of their education at secondary school.

Organisation

In Reception, pupils learn one French unit per term. In Key Stage One, pupils learn two French units per term. In Key Stage Two, pupils learn two French units per term through weekly, 45-minute lessons.

The teaching of the National Curriculum content is supported by the use of the Language Angels scheme of work and resources, across all year groups. Children also receive a 10 minute 'Top-Up' of French in Key Stage Two classes, revising previously taught vocabulary and phrases.

The curriculum that we follow is based on the guidance given in the revised National Curriculum, with the focus of language learning being on practical communication. This aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources
- Speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity
- Communicate what they want to say through discussion and asking questions
- Continually improve the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation
- Write at varying length for different purposes and audiences
- Use a variety of grammatical structures
- Discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the target language

Teaching a foreign language to children with Special Educational Needs

At Buttsbury Primary School, we teach a foreign language to every child. A foreign language forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our foreign language teaching, we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make progress. We do this by setting suitable learning challenges and responding to each child's different needs.

We enable pupils to have access to the full range of activities involved in learning a foreign language. Teachers scaffold tasks and adapt teaching where needed, and advice on adapting and scaffolding the learning, including for higher attaining language students, is available from subject leaders.

Assessment

We use the National Curriculum statements and our own Skills Progression Document to make a judgement based on evidence of the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills seen in lessons. We report on Foreign Language progress in the annual report to parents.

Scheme of Work

The delivery of our French curriculum is supported by the Language Angels scheme of work and resources, which are used across Reception, Key Stage One and Key Stage Two, fulfilling the requirements of the National Curriculum. Topics and cross-curricular links are taught where appropriate. Additionally, activities in the target language are organised for special events in the school year, such as the European Day of Languages.

Mastery in Foreign Languages

Effective mastery in Foreign Languages leads to an understanding of another language and culture. Texts and resources in the target language (French) are provided to encourage and stimulate interest in language learning for all children. Regardless of their ability, all pupils are challenged through the opportunity to study texts in French and songs.

Pupils demonstrate accurate reading and listening skills. Furthermore, they compare and contrast the vocabulary and grammar rules of English with those of French; they identify similarities and differences in order to apply these rules accurately and demonstrate a deeper understanding of the grammar in both their own and the target language.

Vocabulary and sentence structures are provided to the pupils throughout the teaching sequence. They are then able to independently apply their knowledge to both structure their own sentences and to talk about other topics and therefore demonstrate mastery. Children are able to re-use, apply and adapt the vocabulary and sentence structures as they progress with their language learning.

Real life scenarios are included throughout the teaching sequences to allow children to apply their language knowledge. Examples include studying salutations in Year 1, ordering food and drinks at a tea room in Year 4 and outlining a typical day at school in Year 6. Children also have the opportunity to study topics linked to other Foundation areas such as Habitats in Year 4 and Vikings in Year 6.

As a result of this, children develop a deeper understanding of language learning and an understanding of another culture and language.

Monitoring and review

Policy Date: Autumn 2025

Review Date: Autumn 2028