

Modern Foreign Languages

Director of Learning: Miss S Durkin

French at Priestnall concentrates on providing focused learning opportunities to enable all students to know how a language works and how to become a language learner. Students develop the necessary skills in order to use the language independently for practical purpose in the modern world.

During KS3 there are four Attainment objectives in French, used as a focus of study and assessment:

- AO1** Listening
- AO2** Speaking
- AO3** Reading
- AO4** Writing

The Year 7 course lays the foundation of language learning. Clear learning objectives are launched and reinforced throughout the year. Teaching of basic vocabulary such as numbers and colours goes above and beyond any learning they may have already experienced at primary school. We also cover the topics of Family and Friends, Education, jobs and future plans.

During Year 7 students explore the sounds and grammatical patterns of French. They learn to decipher texts both orally and written as their language skills develop. As students become more confident they begin to express themselves through role-plays, short conversations and extended writing. Students will familiarise themselves with the sounds of French through recorded material including poems and songs.

We endeavour to provide as many opportunities as possible for students to learn about the cultural aspects of French life. We aim to do this through project work wherever possible.

Students have two formal listening and reading assessments in the year. They have one end of year speaking assessment. They will produce two pieces of assessed writing. Vocabulary learning and testing are frequent and essential for language learning. All students of French must be encouraged to revise, redraft written work and learn new concepts using a variety of strategies.

We strongly recommend all students purchase a bilingual dictionary before starting Year 7 as competent dictionary skills are essential to good progress.