

ASCL Key Stage 2/Key Stage 3 French Transition Toolkit

A practical, workable tool to support effective transition

The Department for Education's 2013 MFL KS3 Programme of Study refers to **cross-phase coherence** "teaching may be of any language and should build on the foundations of language learning laid at KS2, whether pupils continue with the same language or take up a new one".

The **KS2 Programme of Study (DFE 2013)** states "language learning should establish the foundations of learning how to learn a language and enable pupils to develop an appreciation of how language works in addition to making substantial progress in one language".

The **Teaching Schools Council MFL Pedagogy review** (2016) recommends that "Language teachers should know and build on the grammar taught in the KS2 NC for English" and that "secondary schools should know about the modern languages taught at their feeder primary. Wherever possible, they should support language learning in primary and plan to build on pupils' primary school language knowledge".

The **Primary Languages White** paper recommends that "primary schools should provide receiving secondary schools with a clear statement of what pupils have been taught and what pupils should know and be able to do at the point of transfer from KS to KS3".

ASCL's KS2/KS3 MFL transition toolkit has two distinct and complementary aims:

- 1 Provide an informed actionable base for secondary MFL teachers to build upon, so that teachers can organise learning in a way that allows pupils to demonstrate what they already know and how well they have explored this knowledge. Teachers are then able to build quickly and constructively on prior learning, avoiding as far as possible any downturn in either achievement or motivation.
- 2 Provide a minimum body of conceptual knowledge (grammar, vocabulary, and phonology) and cultural knowledge that has been explored, retained and actively used by Year 6 pupils at the end of four years of language learning at KS2. This is particularly for primary teachers who may be unsure of what knowledge and skills would best equip their learners for a good start in secondary.

The 'drag and drop' toolkit can be used in three different ways:

Flexibility

The 'drag and drop' (ie copy and paste) feature of the toolkit allows primary language teachers to select the grammar, vocabulary, phonology and cultural knowledge that their pupils have explored and retained at the end of KS2, then drag this across to populate the blank boxes according to their pupils' learning (they may add to this if they wish).

Transition scenarios

- 1 Where there are a small number of collaborative partner feeder schools, joint discussions can lead to an agreed conceptual body of knowledge to drag into and populate the blank boxes.
- 2 Where there are a large number of feeder primary schools, each school can 'drag and drop' their pupils' learning into the boxes, and secondary colleagues can determine the overlap in learning, so that there is at least a common actionable baseline.
- 3 Where a different language is taught in KS3 to KS2, secondary colleagues can use the populated toolkit to support the learning of a second language through making links to what they have learnt and building on transferable skills.

Where language teachers in partner primary and secondary schools are unable to meet, the toolkit can act as a virtual dialogue tool, giving primary colleagues autonomy to share examples of vocabulary, grammar and phonology explored and giving secondary colleagues the opportunity to request certain areas be explored.

The toolkit is available in French, German, and Spanish and can be used or adapted by groups of partner and feeder schools. The aim is to provide genuine continuity of language learning between phases. It is important to note that the examples given here are exemplification only, this is not a prescriptive list. By the end of KS2, children should know a range of all word types, ie noun, pronoun, adjective, verb, adverb, conjunction, preposition as illustrated here.

Department of Education:

"Pupils should be taught to understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied, including (where relevant): feminine, masculine and neuter forms and the conjugation of high-frequency verbs; key features and patterns of the language; how to apply these, for instance, to build sentences; and how these differ from or are similar to English."

This statement is taken from the [DfE KS2 Programme of Study for languages](#). Whilst it makes suggestions as to which grammar 'should' be taught, many indications are broad and generalised such as 'key features and patterns of the language'.

ASCL's toolkit builds on [other transition toolkits](#) and aims to provide some suggested linguistic knowledge which has been retained and can be actively used by pupils at the end of KS2. Inevitably pupils will have encountered more language than outlined here but this essential content and progress forms the basis for effective transition between stages as well as points of reference when introducing a new language in KS3. Repeating work is a strong demotivator; whereas if key language is revisited and extended, it can help with a sense of progress noted to be important for motivation and [transition](#).

The suggestions are informed by and complement most commercial resources and packages aimed at supporting the teaching of KS2 languages.

Overview of core elements

- Gender
- Agreement
- Nouns
- Adjectives
- Subject pronouns
- Possessive pronouns

- High frequency regular verbs
- High frequency irregular verbs
- Adverbs and adverbial phrases
- Prepositions
- There is/ are
- Opinions (verbs and adjectives)
- How to make nouns plural
- Questions
- Imperatives
- Suggested Classroom Instructions to be used at KS2
- Suggested questions to be covered at KS2
- Agreed grammatical English terminology eg nouns, articles, determiners
- High frequency language such as colours, days of the week and months
- Conjunctions and intensifiers
- Key phonemes/graphemes
- Word order
- Cultural knowledge
- Numbers

Further information

DfE, National Curriculum in England: Languages programmes of study

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-languages-programmes-of-study>

Teaching Schools Council, *Modern Foreign Languages Pedagogy Review*

<https://tscouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/MFL-Pedagogy-Review-Report-2.pdf>

Research in Primary Languages, *White Paper: Primary Languages Policy in England*

<http://www.ripl.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/RIPL-White-Paper-Primary-Languages-Policy-in-England.pdf>

ALL Connect Transition Toolkit

<https://www.all-languages.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Transition-Toolkit.pdf>

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June 2020

Appendix

French schemes of work for Key Stage 2

CAVE LANGUAGE's KS2 French Scheme of Work and Mixed-Age French Scheme have detailed lesson plans and resources which include: IWB activities with sound; embedded 'Physical French Phonics' images with sound; templates for classroom resources; audio for the scanned story books and rhymes; accompanying workbooks to download. The scheme is based on the language progression in the 'Catherine Cheater' Schemes of Work Years 3 and 4. To access the scheme, proof of purchase is needed of the related resources www.cavelanguages.co.uk/schemes-of-work

EARLY START's lively videos feature real children in varied, interesting contexts, filmed in the foreign country, with authentic voices, and glimpses of everyday life and culture to help young beginners get a sound, age-appropriate foundation for language learning. These structured online resources offer lots of support for non-specialist teachers: 'whiteboard talking flashcards', original and authentic songs and cultural presentations. A Teacher's Manual aids lesson planning, with games and activities. Early Start offers a FREE TRIAL/ INSPECTION SERVICE www.earlystartonline.com

HIGH FIVE FRENCH and HIGH FIVE SPANISH are online, video-based resources suitable for all stages of primary school. Each lively and enjoyable episode of the 40-lesson scheme includes a video, accompanying audio materials, activity sheets and challenges to encourage children to develop their confidence in speaking and understanding the language. Also included are comprehensive notes for teachers, meaning that High Five can be used effectively by teachers with little or no experience. <https://rineducation.com>

ILANGUAGES offers a popular and innovative KS2 scheme in French and Spanish designed for teachers of all abilities. It has a strong phonics focus and includes engaging stories, songs, games and cultural videos as well as end of year assessments and an app to reinforce learning outside the classroom. Teachers can find out more information and request a trial/ samples at: www.ilanguages.co.uk/primary.php

KAPOW PRIMARY makes bite sized teacher demo videos for primary French, alongside accompanying lesson plans and resources. It's great for helping subject leaders or specialist teachers ensure progression of skills across a school, but also for teachers who are less confident at teaching languages or are perhaps totally new to MFL. We offer a free trial as well as free subject leader toolkits: https://blog.kapowprimary.com/free-7-day-trial/?fbclid=IwAR251nnSaTUEWsVxnpgCsVcTvzHZQ74j_JCoiL8OfwIVkL1iAJiSk7IPsc4

LA JOLIE RONDE FRENCH AND SPANISH SCHEME OF WORK is a flexible four year scheme providing support to non-specialist teachers and a guide for the more experienced. Available in French or Spanish and split for years 3 and 4 and 5 and 6, everything is pre-prepared and planned. Also available are Pupil Activity Books, training courses and FREE Trials of the Scheme.

French www.language-resources.co.uk/french-resources/schemes-of-work

Spanish www.language-resources.co.uk/spanish-resources/schemes-of-work

LANGUAGE ANGELS are awardwinning language teaching resources designed so all primary schools can embed and sustain a foreign language as part of their curriculum offering. All teachers/subject leaders, irrespective of their linguistic ability, have everything they require in one place. From IWB materials, long and short-term planning, full assessment, songs/raps, desk-based activities, interactive games to curriculum guidance. Take a FREE six - week trial to everything! www.languageangels.com

LANGUAGE MAGNET offers an award-winning course in both French and Spanish for KS2, which is designed to enable non-specialists to deliver expert MFL lessons confidently. With teacher guides, module overviews, detailed lesson plans, humorous presentations with sound files, fun activity sheets, games and resources, the scheme is excellent value for money and is a fantastic solution for primary languages. Online coaching is also available at www.languagemagnet.com

MR FRENCH is a website where you can find great and fun resources for Y3 up to Y6. With cute and happy cartoons, the topics are adapted for children and motivate them to learn French while having fun! The lessons are made for teachers who speak French but also those who don't! Everything is done for you: scheme of work, lesson plans, PowerPoints with sounds embedded in them, differentiated assessments, songs, games and activities. You can find a sample of the whole greetings topic to see what you would get if you subscribe for only £15/year <https://mrfrench.uk/>

POWERLANGUAGE FOR SCHOOLS aims to help teachers deliver a progressive and contextualised language programme to learners aged 3 to 12 years, and are used by over 50% of schools in Scotland. The Planners and Associated Resources section supports progression from Nursery through to early secondary school, using animations, videos and songs. Responsive resources for the nursery, primary and early secondary curriculum include Health and Well Being, Literacy, Numeracy, Social Studies, Science and Technologies, Expressive Arts, PE, Outdoor Learning. Contact E: info@powerlanguage.net for more info or visit <http://powerlanguage.net>

PRIMARY LANGUAGES NETWORK transforms the provision of languages in primary schools with engaging teaching resources and comprehensive planning and assessment tools. We offer our KS2 primary scheme of work in FRENCH, GERMAN and SPANISH which includes both 'Click2Teach' for non-specialist teachers with audio stories, videos, songs, games and a language up-skilling course and 'BeCreative' for confident language teachers with lesson plans, creative ideas and resources. To find out more and organise your virtual tour, please visit www.primarylanguages.network

SALUT! is CGP's set of IWB resources for KS2 French. It has everything you need for fun-packed weekly French lessons throughout Years 3 to 6, with brilliant songs, games, stories and much more. And of course, we've included full support for all teachers – whether you're a fluent French speaker or completely new to the language. www.cgpbooks.co.uk/info/welcome-to-salut!

THE CATHERINE CHEATER SCHEMES OF WORK for French and Spanish provide weekly lesson plans plus ideas for daily practice – Practice Parcels, together with accompanying PowerPoint presentations that model the spoken language and support with visuals. CD-ROM, fully adaptable www.goldendaffodils.co.uk Follow us at www.facebook.com/goldendaffodils/

French Schemes of Work for Key Stage 2 – Free of charge

The **PRIMARY FRENCH PROJECT** provides free teaching materials that aim to train all who teach French in KS2. The materials have been produced by the Institut français du Royaume-Uni (IFRU), with the Association for Language Learning (ALL) and Network for Languages.

Suitable for all practitioners, including those who have no prior knowledge of the language, and also specialist linguists who are new to teaching children in KS2, the materials aim to train the teacher by providing the subject knowledge that is needed in order to meet the requirements of the Programme of Study for Languages in KS2, as well as age-appropriate language-teaching methodology.

The teaching materials include lesson plans and PowerPoint Presentations for the interactive whiteboard. The PowerPoint presentations include all images and voice recordings necessary to model language and grammatical concepts to children.

The materials are aligned to KS2 year groups as follows:

Niveau bleu – Year 3

Niveau blanc – Year 4

Niveau rouge – Year 5

Niveau tricolore – Year 6

For transition from KS2 to KS3, secondary teachers should use niveau multicolore.

Do you have mixed-age classes? Mixed-aged planning is available for Y3-Y4 on a two-year cycle, and Y5-Y6 on a two-year cycle.

The materials are all free to download from Culturethèque at www.institut-francais.org.uk/primaryfrench

Teachers can also join a support group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/primaryfrench.ifru/ and access complementary materials on Ifprofs at <https://uk.ifprofs.org/groupe/primary-french-project> (all free to join)

Pupils completing the Primary French Project scheme of work at the end of KS2 are ready to take the DELF prim diploma, the French Ministry of Education's official certification for proficiency in the French Language: <https://www.institut-francais.org.uk/education/primary-secondary-education/for-teachers/exams/> (fee-based)

The **LIGHT BULB LANGUAGES** scheme of work for KS2 French provides free teaching materials to support all teachers who deliver French lessons in KS2, especially non-specialist teachers. The materials were written by two primary languages specialists, who designed, taught and tweaked the lessons and materials prior to their being uploaded on the website.

The materials include all lesson plans and resources, as well as sound files to assist with pronunciation and upskilling podcasts which take the teacher through each lesson and its language before they teach it.

The website also has additional free resources which complement the scheme of work and which can be used as enrichment and extension activities.

The scheme of work and its resources are all free to download from www.lightbulblanguages.co.uk/resources-pr-fr-schemeofwork.h...

The additional resources are available here www.lightbulblanguages.co.uk/resources-pr-fr-resources.htm

The upskilling podcasts and their transcripts are available here www.lightbulblanguages.co.uk/resources-pr-fr-podcasts.htm

The **RACHEL HAWKES** Scheme of Work for French can be downloaded from www.rachelhawkes.com/PandT/Primary/Primary.php by using the left-hand navigation bar and selecting Primary Resources, then French by year group.

Acknowledgements

ALL Primary Steering Group

www.all-languages.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Transition-Toolkit.pdf

List of commercial schemes of work and free schemes of work compiled for the Languages in Primary Schools Facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/primarylanguages