

Avondale Primary School

Support for Parents - French

At Avondale, we use The Primary Language Network scheme of work to help us plan our French lessons.



What is Primary French?

The national curriculum for languages at primary school 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, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation
- ♣ can write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt
- ♣ discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied.

What can you do to support language learning?

As a parent, you don't need special skills to help your child learn French. Spending time with your child and showing them that you value what they are learning is important.

You can support your child's language learning by reinforcing the message that learning a language takes time – with plenty of repetition and practice being the keys to success!

When it comes to French, ask your child what they are learning. Let them use the French language at home in any way that they can (for example, speaking, reading, and writing), even if you don't understand it. Show your amazement at what they can do!

With that in mind, you can support your child's language learning in the following ways:

- Ask your child to teach you something in the target language – and allow them to correct you!
- Try changing the language settings on shows on Netflix. Most shows/films are available in multiple languages – your child won't find it difficult to follow shows they already know in another language. Or watch films in the target language with subtitles on – and vice versa!
- Research with your child and/or encourage your child to research for themselves some of the similarities and differences between our culture and customs in other countries. A good starting point for this is to look at how festivals are celebrated, for example Christmas, Easter and birthdays
- Get books, magazines, leaflets when you're on holiday abroad
- Download interactive language learning apps and games and use them as a family
- Encourage your child to use dictionaries (paper or online versions – we recommend www.wordreference.com) instead of translators. Online translators will give you the most common translations of a word without considering the context or any alternative meanings. For example, "book" can mean different things: a literary composition that is published or intended for publication, an action of reserving a flight or hotel, to record the fowl made by a player by the referee, a set of stamps or tickets...

Useful Websites/Apps

<https://www.thefablecottage.com/languages/french>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/index.shtml>

<https://www.duolingo.com/course/fr/en/Learn-French>

<https://www.thefrenchexperiment.com/>

Some apps are free or have in-app purchases available, double check the automatic renewal subscription price plans before you subscribe. (Some can be very expensive!)