



Curriculum Overview

The Thomas Mills High School and Sixth Form French curriculum builds upon the foundations established in Year 7, enabling pupils to broaden and deepen their knowledge of French language and culture. Through the study of carefully sequenced phonics, topic-specific vocabulary and increasingly complex grammar, pupils develop the substantive knowledge required to communicate with greater confidence and precision. They continue to develop disciplinary knowledge through listening, speaking, reading and writing, strengthening their ability to understand and use French in a range of contexts.

Building on this foundation, pupils learn to communicate information and ideas that extend beyond their immediate needs and interests, expressing and justifying opinions with increasing confidence. They develop their understanding of present, past and future time frames, manipulate a wider range of grammatical structures, and improve their pronunciation, accuracy and fluency. Through discussion, role-play, translation and creative language tasks, pupils become increasingly spontaneous and independent communicators. A continued emphasis on secure knowledge of phonics, vocabulary and grammar supports progression through Key Stage 3, equipping pupils with the knowledge, skills and strategies needed to become successful language learners, communicate confidently with others, and develop an appreciation of different cultures, perspectives and communities around the world.

The following learning objectives (LO) support pupils' progress in Year 8 French:

LO1 – Understanding and interpreting language

- Understand the main points, details, opinions and reasons in spoken and written French.
- Demonstrate increasingly secure comprehension of a range of texts, language forms and time frames.

LO2 – Communicating in French

- Communicate information, ideas and opinions in speaking and writing across a range of topics and time frames.
- Use vocabulary, phonics and grammatical structures with increasing accuracy, confidence, independence and spontaneity.

LO3 – Language and culture

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of French vocabulary, phonics, grammar and culture.
- Make connections between languages, cultures and communities within the French-speaking world.



Year 8

Term	Topic	Knowledge and Skills	Useful Links
1	Name of topics My preferences Clothes and fashion Weekend activities Holidays Weather	Knowledge: This term covers the vocabulary and language structures related to clothing, preferences, weekend activities, and holidays. Pupils will learn to talk about their personal style, describe the weather and appropriate clothing, and discuss hobbies and national events. They will also describe past holidays, plan dream holidays, and identify necessary items for travel. Key grammar includes the present tense (ER, IR, and RE verbs), reflexive verbs, and the perfect tense with both 'avoir' and 'aller'. Skills: Pupils will develop their ability to talk about personal preferences and leisure activities, give opinions, and describe past and future holidays. They will practise forming questions, using a variety of verbs and tenses, and applying accurate adjective agreement. Through guided practice, they will build greater grammatical accuracy and confidence in expressing themselves in French.	1. BBC Bitesize French – Offers interactive lessons, quizzes, and videos to reinforce key vocabulary and grammar concepts. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z39d7ty 2. Duolingo – A fun and engaging app that helps students practice vocabulary and sentence structures through gamified exercises. https://www.duolingo.com/ 3. Languages Online – Provides interactive grammar and vocabulary exercises tailored to different proficiency levels. https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/ 4. Quizlet – A flashcard-based tool where students can practice key terms and test themselves with various learning modes. https://quizlet.com/ 5. Oak National Academy - French Year 8 – A collection of structured lessons designed to reinforce key topics in French. It includes videos, quizzes, and interactive exercises to support independent learning. Free KS3 French teaching resources Oak National Academy 6. Language Nut – an online platform the school subscribes to that has vocabulary games, exam style questions, grammar activities and



			phonics explanations. www.languageut.com
Assessments		Assessment in this term will consist of two listening tasks, two reading tasks, one speaking, and one writing task. These standardised assessments will test pupils' understanding of vocabulary, their ability to describe and discuss their preferences, and their use of key tenses.	
2	Name of topics Body Sport Healthy living Jobs Plans for the future	Knowledge: This term pupils will explore sports, healthy living, parts of the body, and career aspirations. They will learn vocabulary for describing sports and injuries, naming jobs, and discussing future ambitions. Grammar covered includes the use of 'jouer' and 'faire', the conditional tense, 'depuis' with the present tense, and the perfect and imperfect tenses. Skills: Pupils will practise using a range of tenses together, asking and answering questions, and structuring longer pieces of writing. They will describe injuries, sports routines, and talk about the past and future. This term also encourages higher-level thinking as pupils begin to use more complex sentence structures and tenses in a range of contexts.	BBC Bitesize French – Offers interactive lessons, quizzes, and videos to reinforce key vocabulary and grammar concepts. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z39d7ty Duolingo – A fun and engaging app that helps students practice vocabulary and sentence structures through gamified exercises. https://www.duolingo.com/ Languages Online – Provides interactive grammar and vocabulary exercises tailored to different proficiency levels. https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/ Quizlet – A flashcard-based tool where students can practice key terms and test themselves with various learning modes. https://quizlet.com/ Oak National Academy - French Year 8 – A collection of structured lessons designed to reinforce key topics in French. It includes videos, quizzes, and interactive exercises to support independent



			learning. Free KS3 French teaching resources Oak National Academy 6. Language Nut – an online platform the school subscribes to that has vocabulary games, exam style questions, grammar activities and phonics explanations. www.languagehut.com
Assessments		Standardised assessments will include two listening, two reading, one speaking, and one writing task. These will evaluate pupils' ability to describe healthy lifestyles, talk about sports and career plans, and use varied tenses accurately and effectively.	
3	Name of topics Technology Celebrity culture My world and The Francophone world	Knowledge: In the final term, pupils will learn to talk about online behaviour, social media, and the benefits and dangers of new technology. They will describe where they live, their daily routines, and what they do to help others. Pupils will be introduced to some famous Francophone celebrities. Pupils will also explore the Francophone world. Grammar includes reflexive verbs, comparisons, the near future, and the perfect tense with 'être'. Skills: Pupils will enhance their ability to structure arguments, express opinions on social and cultural issues, and describe personal experiences. They will learn to compare lifestyles and recognise the importance of responsible online behaviour. The development of listening and reading comprehension	1. BBC Bitesize French – Offers interactive lessons, quizzes, and videos to reinforce key vocabulary and grammar concepts. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z39d7ty 2. Duolingo – A fun and engaging app that helps students practice vocabulary and sentence structures through gamified exercises. https://www.duolingo.com/ 3. Languages Online – Provides interactive grammar and vocabulary exercises tailored to different proficiency levels. https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/ 4. Quizlet – A flashcard-based tool where students can practice key terms and test themselves with various learning modes. https://quizlet.com/



		will continue through authentic and meaningful contexts.	5. Oak National Academy - French Year 8 – A collection of structured lessons designed to reinforce key topics in French. It includes videos, quizzes, and interactive exercises to support independent learning. Free KS3 French teaching resources Oak National Academy 6. Language Nut – an online platform the school subscribes to that has vocabulary games, exam style questions, grammar activities and phonics explanations. www.languagenut.com
Assessment	This term includes one listening and one reading assessment. These will test understanding of key vocabulary and grammar in the context of technology, social life, and cultural awareness.		