



Green Shoots
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

French Integrated Programme
Key Stage One (Year 1-2)
Your Child's Learning Journey

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Programme Aim

Green Shoots International School offers the opportunity to children from our French community to continue their French language learning alongside the UK's National Curriculum. The French First-Language Programme in Key Stage One (KS1) corresponds to *Grande Section (GS)* and *Cours Préparatoire (CP)*, which is the year-level progression within the French Ministry of National Education. As such, the objectives of the programme are aligned with the skills outlined by the curriculum documentation. However, at Green Shoots the personal learning needs of each child are also considered.

This programme is open to all francophone children, whether French is their first or a fluent second language, and to those who wish to continue their learning of French in school. Students who enrol in this programme should be prepared to learn the French language at their age-appropriate level. The final aim is to secure knowledge, skills and understanding in the French language, allowing for the possibility of a seamless integration into the French educational system.

Programme Overview

KS1 covers the end of Cycle One and the first year of Cycle Two of the French primary school learning objectives. The Green Shoots programme is also tailored to the specific needs of each class and each child.

It is divided into four skill areas:

- Speaking and listening
- Reading and comprehension
- Writing: Composition
- Writing: Transcription, Grammar and Punctuation

This programme includes five hours of learning each week during which the teacher offers the lessons completely in French. These lessons take place while the English-speaking learners follow the English National Curriculum and the year levels correspond to age-appropriate allocation according to the Green Shoots enrolment procedure. Learners join their home-group class for all other subjects, which are taught in English (See *KS1 Guidance* for more information on the English curriculum).

At Green Shoots, our teachers set up active learning through motivating and differentiated activities. They place each student at the heart of teaching and learning by adapting to their individual needs. Green Shoots students have a programme of personal learning goals and core values that encourage the positive personal development of each child. The French programme aligns with these values and helps children become more aware of their personal wellbeing, their environment, and sustainable practices so that they become responsible and independent citizens.

Teaching and Learning: Subject overview

KS1 marks the entry into primary school and lays the foundation of essential French language. It provides our learners with the skills required to continue their learning in French. Throughout these two years, our learners are exposed to structure of oral expression, are familiarised with writing, and develop early reading skills.

Oral fluency is an important part of our programme. It is promoted through various activities by enriching vocabulary and personal expression in order to structure language and reflection. Learners develop their ability to listen and respect the dynamics of communicating with peers through class discussions and 'story time'. This also marks the introduction to our learners' journey into the literary world.

Throughout KS1, students learn to read and develop their writing skills. At the end of Year 2 (*CP*), learners can independently decode and understand simple sentences. These skills are further developed throughout Key Stage Two (KS2).

In writing, key learning objectives in KS1 include:

- Handwriting: learning to write in cursive by developing fine motor skills and pencil/pen control, and
- Composition: learning to independently write first words, followed by simple sentences

At this level, the students are encouraged to apply their phonetic knowledge to their writing.

Finally, our KS1 French programme provides holistic understanding of new vocabulary in both English and French. Green Shoots teachers plan together to harmonise their topics in both languages to allow children to express their diverse subject knowledge. For example, they learn to count, the names of geometric shapes and more in both French and English. Our programme is one that adapts to the needs of our learners. Our teachers value the diverse backgrounds and contexts our learners come from and aim to provide teaching and learning that is engaging, stimulating and relevant.

Homework

In French, homework consists of reviewing concepts learnt during the week or completing an exercise of application. Assignments are given on a Friday and due the following Monday to allow the children to consolidate their knowledge over the weekend. Homework assigned in KS1 requires the help of an adult. Parents are encouraged to be involved in their child's progression and to provide the support and motivation necessary for their child's progress.

Reports and Assessment

Green Shoots learners are assessed regularly through continuous assessment conducted throughout the learning process to evaluate progress, identify areas for development, and set goals for future learning. The progress of our learners is recorded at the end of each unit. Teachers provide regular written and verbal feedback to ensure students are aware of their progress.

At Green Shoots, we use guidance from the standards set by French Ministry of Education when undertaking student assessment. From this, we have developed an internal assessment system that reflects the learning needs of each child enrolled with us. The flexibility created by our assessment systems allows us to tailor our programme to allow for the fact that all other subjects are taught in English, not French. For our learners, language development may take place at a different speed and in a different order compared to students enrolled in a 100% French programme.

KS1 learners receive two school reports each year: A Student Progress Report in January and a comprehensive End-of-Year Report in June. These reports assess both attainment (performance against KS1 learning objectives) and effort (assessment of each student's attitude toward learning and non-academic progress and development).

School reports cover all KS1 subjects, along with feedback on each learner's personal and social development.

Green Shoots' KS1 Academic Progress Descriptors are:

WT - Working Toward the Expected Level

The student is working towards year-level standards. Knowledge, skills and understanding are being developed, however the student has not yet shown consistent understanding of the concepts taught.

E - Emerging in the Expected Level

The student is developing the knowledge, skills and understanding at their year level. They display an understanding of some of the concepts taught and can demonstrate this with support.

WW - Working Within the Expected Level

The student is meeting year level standards. They display an understanding of their learning objectives and can demonstrate this without support.

M - Mastery of the Expected Level

The student is consistently meeting year-level standards. They display a firm level of understanding of their learning objectives and can demonstrate, explain and apply knowledge, skills and understanding independently.

EE - Exceeding the Expected Level

The student is exceeding year-level standards. They display a deep level of understanding of their learning objectives and may be introduced to concepts at the next year level.

Green Shoots' KS1 Attitude & Effort Indicators are:

- Strives for personal best
- Participates actively in learning activities
- Shows initiative and is confident in making positive choices
- Cooperates and strives to build positive relationships
- Shows respect for self, others and their learning

These are assessed as being demonstrated *Consistently, Usually, Generally, Occasionally* or *Rarely*.