



Green Shoots
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

French Integrated Programme
Key Stage Two (Year 3 - 6)
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 Two (KS2) corresponds to *Cours Élémentaire 1ère Année (CE1)*, *Cours Élémentaire 2ème Année (CE2)*, *Cours Moyen 1ère Année (CM1)* and *Cours Moyen 2ème Année (CM2)*, 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 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

KS2 covers Cycles Two and Three of the French primary school 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 *KS2 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

Lower Key Stage Two (LKS2)

This level corresponds to *CE1* and *CE2*. The aim of these two years is to establish a solid foundation in reading and writing for each learner. The course focuses on the basic concepts of language and the development of written and oral skills.

During LKS2, students learn the parts of a sentence, the use of punctuation, and begin to enrich their vocabulary. This is enhanced through exposure to a range of text types and engaging activities. At the end of these two years, students read fluently and are able to understand a text independently. They complete comprehension activities through both guided and independent reading.

In writing, learners are guided in mastering the art of cursive writing and they become familiar in producing fictional compositions, non-fictional texts, and poetic art.

Learning to express one's opinions and develop critical thinking skills are paramount to Green Shoots, which is why learners are encouraged to share their thoughts, their understanding, and to develop their ideas by justifying their answers to questions. Thus, at this level, children begin to acquire effective tools in personal expression, sharing perspectives, participating in debates and developing their ability to listen respectfully to their peers.

All skills are developed in an active and motivating environment and are consolidated through ongoing projects throughout the year. Some of these include: correspondence with a school in France, journal publishing, creative story writing, and public speaking presentations.

Upper Key Stage Two (UKS2)

This level corresponds to *CM1* and *CM2*, the first two years of Cycle Three. Where Cycle Two introduces the structure and knowledge of the French language, Cycle Three enables learners to consolidate their acquisition of

these skills through a range of text types.

This stage helps students develop their independence, which in turn prepares them for entry into secondary education. The programme is organised around speaking and listening, reading and comprehension, and writing activities that are supported by specific aspects of language (such as grammar, spelling and vocabulary). This enables learners to understand the functions of language and the rules of syntax, and to develop solid grammatical knowledge. They are introduced to more complex texts and study integral literary works. They develop written skills in text structure, logical development, and how to use different forms of punctuation.

Oral expression continues to be further developed in UKS2, as critical thinking skills follow from the progression learnt in LKS2. Students deepen their understanding of personal expression; they learn how to share their point of view in a clear and orderly manner, how to interact effectively with peers, how to reflect on their perspective, and how to explain their ideas with adequate description.

Literature is also an integral part of the UKS2 programme. It develops the imagination, enriches vocabulary and allows our learners to become more independent with their literary skills through exposure to a range of writing activities. During these two years, different text types are studied at a more in-depth level than in previous years, aiding the development of interpretive skills and building a literary and artistic appreciation.

As with LKS2, all skills are developed in an active and motivating environment and are consolidated through ongoing projects throughout the year. Some of these include: correspondence with a school in France, journal publishing, creative story writing, and public speaking presentations.

Homework

In KS2, students strengthen their sense of responsibility for their own learning, which includes personal work at home.

In LKS2, this home learning consists of a review of lesson content from the preceding week through exercises or a text to be reread. Assignments are given on a Friday and are due the following Monday to allow the children to consolidate their knowledge over the weekend. This timing also allows families to participate in their child's learning.

In UKS2, in addition to weekend learning pupils also receive vocabulary lists or dictation preparation activities, as well as books to read. They are allotted one week to complete their home learning tasks. Assigned homework encourages independence and personal responsibility by learning to organise time, and consolidates understanding of the activities covered at school.

At Green Shoots, we value the importance of growing into responsible and independent citizens, and by assigning appropriate tasks to each year level we aim to develop our students' involvement in their learning and progress. Parents are encouraged to take part in their child's schooling at home through discussions and support.

Green Shoots provides a diary, in which each student may record their homework. In it you will find a section reserved for communication between parents and teachers.

Reports and Assessment

Assessment is completed regularly and consistently through both formative (ongoing assessment that informs teaching and learning) and summative (evaluating student performance at a particular time and against certain benchmarks) methods. Our learners' attainment in core subjects is recorded at the end of each unit, however opportunities for assessment for learning are conducted throughout the learning process to evaluate progress achieved, areas for development, and goal setting for future learning. Green Shoots teachers provide regular feedback, both written and verbal, to ensure KS2 learners are aware of their progress and are given frequent opportunities for reflection.

As we prepare KS2 learners for secondary school, our teachers occasionally create test-like situations, which we often refer to as 'learning checks', and during which students are required to demonstrate their learning without assistance. This is conducted in a nurturing and supportive environment where learners understand that assessment allows both them and their teachers the opportunity to check where they are against their learning objectives and identify next steps within their learning journey at Green Shoots.

For students enrolled in our French programme, 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. 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.

KS2 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 KS2 learning objectives) and effort (assessment of a student's attitude toward learning, and non-academic progress and development).

School reports cover KS2 core and foundation subjects, along with feedback on each learner's personal and social development. Green Shoots' KS2 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' KS2 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*.