

Reading, Writing and Speaking in the Bilingual Stream

As well as learning our foundation subjects in French, we also deliver a carefully selected program of study to support our children learn to read, understand, speak and write in French. In Reception children begin their bilingual journey through French games, activities, songs and role-play before they move into Year 1 and we grow their vocabulary through IPC activities and lessons every afternoon.

From Year 2 we introduce the Taoki scheme of work, which supports the early phonic knowledge that will enable our children to be able to read in French and begin to understand some basic grammar and spelling rules. The teachers, with support from our native French speakers, take the children on week-by-week journey to learn their sounds in a thirty-minute phonics lessons. They will then begin to absorb key words and build up a knowledge of the language that will enable them to write basic phrases in French.

In Key Stage 2, we use a French scheme of work, Coccinelle, to enable our children to build their grammar and spelling knowledge and also develop their reading comprehension. As children advance through the years, they build up the capability to not only converse in French, but have the capabilities to write in French and apply this to their IPC work at a level that would be expected in Secondary school.

Our native speakers also benefit from an Extended French class, with more challenging activities and homework to stay in line with the French curriculum.

The DELF - Celebrating Your Child's French Language Skills

The DELF is an optional diploma awarded by the French Education Ministry to prove the French language skills of non-French candidates. It is an excellent way to celebrate our children's successes in French. For four years now we have been entering our children for the DELF exams and we are very proud that we have maintained a 100% pass rate so far. Last year, we put forward, for the first time, children at an A2 level (roughly equivalent to a foundation level GCSE) and we hope to continue this success in the coming years. Proudly, we are also an examination centre ourselves with four members of the teaching staff qualified to administer the tests.

The Social Curriculum - A Whole School Approach

Here at Shaftesbury Park, we believe that French should not just be present in our classrooms. All our children take part in celebrations and significant dates in the French cultural calendar. We are regular visitors to the French Institute in South Kensington and take part every year in workshops, cinema visits, plays and performances in their South Ken Festival. Also, whether it is les Galettes des Rois at Epiphany or our whole school celebrations for Francophonie Week or Bastille Day, we aim to immerse our children in not just the French language but French culture.



Shaftesbury Park Primary School

A local school with a global perspective

Une école de quartier ouverte sur le monde

The Bilingual Curriculum at Shaftesbury Park

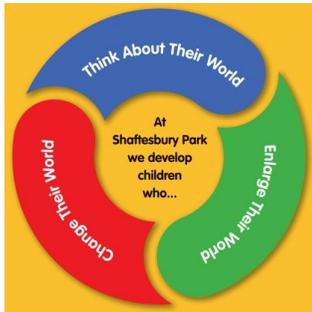
For parents and carers



Bienvenue à Shaftesbury Park

Shaftesbury Park Primary School offers something completely unique - a bilingual education that is open to all.

Seven years ago, we began our journey into offering the children in our corner of Battersea an opportunity to benefit from all the advantages a bilingual education can bring. Alongside our International Primary Curriculum, learning a language allows our children to learn about their world; think about their world and change their world.



We have now established a bilingual curriculum that is innovative, creative and powerful. Our results in both Key Stage 1 and 2 end of Key Stage tests may be well above the average within Wandsworth and nationally, but our curriculum offers so much more. A curriculum that is not restricted by testing but instead, allows our children to flourish and have a positive impact on the world around them.

The LabelFrancEducation Being part of a global network

Last year, we were delighted to be awarded the LabelFrancEducation accreditation by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Label is granted to schools promoting French language and culture as part of their specific curriculum. It recognized schools that offer enhanced instruction of the French language and teaching of other subjects in French and promotes outstanding education in French among students and parents.

Shaftesbury Park is the first school in the UK to be awarded the LabelFrancEducation.



We were delighted to welcome the French Ambassador to the UK, Jean-Pierre Jouyet, to Shaftesbury Park in our own celebration to officially receive our award. We now belong to a network of schools across the globe who share our passion for the French language, and we are particularly proud to be the very first representative of the United Kingdom to have the LabelFrancEducation accreditation.



“Le label d’excellence des filières bilingues en français”

“The accreditation of excellence for bilingual streams in French.”

Our IPC Curriculum and the CLIL approach

At Shaftesbury Park, we use the International Primary Curriculum to teach subjects such as science, history, geography and art. It is a comprehensive, thematic, creative curriculum, which develops international mindedness and encourages personal learning. In the bilingual stream, we adapt this curriculum in order to teach our lessons in French with an immersive approach. Research shows that children in immersion programs acquire impressive amounts of the second language, attain native-like receptive skills and develop much higher levels of proficiency than in a typical Modern Foreign Language classroom setting.

From Reception to Year 6, children are learning all the foundation subjects in French. The expectations in terms of reading, writing and speaking grow year upon year, but lessons are delivered and carefully adapted to make them suitable for all. As well as having teachers with experience of living, working or studying in France, each class in the bilingual stream is supported by a native French speaker. This ensures that the children remain not just immersed in our creative curriculum but the French language as well.