



THE INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION: CURRICULUM

Primary Languages

The statutory phase of language learning comprises the seven years of KS2 and KS3. CAT academies are committed to fulfil the aims and deliver the learning outcomes of the National Curriculum Languages programmes of study for both key stages. In brief, these are to ensure that all pupils at KS2:

- develop their interest in the language(s) and culture(s) of other countries.
- develop their practical communication skills by understanding and responding to both spoken and written language.
- make substantial progress in one language (although they may have additional opportunities to learn more than one language).
- understand basic grammar appropriate to the language studied.
- have a solid foundation for further language study at KS3, where possible in the same language that will be studied at KS3.

The learning of a foreign language has been compulsory for the four years of KS2 since September 2014. CAT schools have taken a lead in developing strong links with primary schools to support the teaching and learning of languages from Year 3 onwards.

Comberton and Cambourne partner primary schools deliver a four-year Spanish learning programme, planned and fully-resourced by ASTs at Comberton. The scheme of work and all supporting resources are available, [here](#):

Collaboration is crucial, and half-termly meetings support ongoing delivery and development. In seven partner schools, teaching is supported directly by CVC and CamVC teachers.

Melbourn primary schools teach either French or Spanish. Most involved are active members of the Association for Language Learning Cambridgeshire Primary Hub.

St Peter's School and Hartford Junior School have been part of a wider DfE-funded SSIF project to improve KS2 languages (and science) provision and transition. French provision at Hartford developed apace during the two years of the project, and is now underpinned by a four-year fully-resourced [French scheme of work](#), created to be taught by specialists and non-specialist teachers of French.

Secondary Languages

At KS3, curriculum provision and high-quality teaching aim to ensure that all pupils:

- develop their ability to communicate clearly and spontaneously in speech and writing in at least one foreign language.
- increase and consolidate a substantial, core vocabulary in long-term memory.



- increase their knowledge and accurate use of core grammar, spelling and punctuation.
- have the opportunity, within and beyond the classroom, to become more independent users of the foreign language.
- are encouraged to develop an intrinsic interest in the language, culture and people of other countries.

CAT secondary schools offer combinations of the following languages: French, German, Spanish and Mandarin:

Secondary school	Language	Current provision
Cambourne Village College	Spanish, French, German	Spanish is the first foreign language, learnt by all. Approximately one third of the Y7 cohort additionally learns either French or German.
Comberton Village College	Spanish, French, German	Spanish is the first foreign language, learnt by all. Approximately two thirds of the Y7 cohort additionally learns either French or German.
Melbourn Village College	Spanish Mandarin	Spanish and Mandarin are now taught to all pupils at KS3. This model is now in its third year.
St. Peter's school	French	French is taught to all pupils at KS3. There is currently no second foreign language provision.

The government has set a benchmark of 90% uptake for languages at KS4 by 2025, and an interim target of 75% by 2022. Trust schools aspire ultimately to meet national targets for language study. Two CAT secondary schools, Comberton and Cambourne, already well exceed the 2022 expectation and the other two are working towards this.

Curriculum development through teacher training and development

Comberton Village College is a national lead school for languages and a teaching school. Comberton provides languages curriculum development CPD for primary and secondary teachers through long-standing networks, and in addition through new DfE-funded initiatives to support developments in the languages curriculum. These include:

Cambridgeshire Heads of Languages Forum [Comberton]

Association for Languages Cambridgeshire network [Comberton]

ALL Cambridgeshire Primary Languages Hub [Swavesey/Comberton]

TSST (Teacher Specialist Subject Training) [Comberton]

SSIF [Strategic School Improvement Fund] Project – KS2 Languages [Comberton/Cambourne/St Peter's]

In addition to meetings and training events, CAT schools also receive frequent teacher observation and consultation visits. There is also a high level of commitment to SLE and AST outreach work locally, nationally and internationally.