

Introduction

This book has been developed to assist primary languages teachers and subject leaders with planning and assessment. The National Curriculum Programme of Study for Key Stage 2 states that pupils should be taught to:

- * understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied, including (where relevant): feminine, masculine and neuter forms and the conjugation of high-frequency verbs;
- * key features and patterns of the language;
- * how to apply these, for instance, to build sentences;
- * and how these differ from or are similar to English.

Getting to Grips with French Grammar at Key Stage 2 breaks the language into three key elements and provides a model of progression in each one:

- * Gender
- * Verbs
- * Sentence building and forming questions

The Staged grammar criteria (pages 5–7) should be used alongside short, medium and long term planning to ensure that progression is built in, and that all relevant aspects of grammar are being incorporated. They should also be used to support assessment and the monitoring of progress. The Stages of progression referred to link to those detailed in our *Primary Languages Assessment Criteria*, also published by Brilliant Publications*. The order in which the different requirements of each Stage are presented is not intended to suggest a recommended teaching sequence and the Stages do not relate directly to the year groups in Key Stage 2.

A single assessment task will not address all the requirements of a particular Stage. However the detailed exemplification of assessment activities provided (pages 10–23) demonstrate how the final outcome of a unit of work can be used to assess a number of aspects of the Programme of Study, including grammar, and exemplify how one activity can provide the opportunity for a range of achievement. The overarching statements for assessing each Stage pull together the different threads to provide a simple and clear summary.

The use of a bilingual dictionary supports the teaching of grammar. The most appropriate dictionary to use for this age group would be one that has been designed specifically for use in schools.

**An at-a-glance guide to our straightforward set of staged assessment criteria for each aspect of the Programme of Study, linked to the Languages Ladder and the KS2 Framework for Languages, can be found on pages 24–25.*