



Erasmus Project

Wistaston Academy took part in an immersion course project funded by Erasmus. This course enabled staff to develop their language teaching and speaking skills, form links with a French Primary School and network with other educators to share best practice.

The Immersion Course

In October 2022, Mrs Lowry and Mrs Dewsbury visited Carcassonne in France. Whilst there, they took part in language lessons delivered by native French speakers, learnt about the methodology of teaching French and further developed their knowledge and understanding of the French culture and daily local life.

Mrs Lowry and Mrs Dewsbury were able to practise their language skills by completing lots of different challenges such as food shopping at the local market, purchasing resources for teaching activities, ordering food in a restaurant and engaging in conversations with local residents to find locations on a map.

As part of the methodology of teaching French, Mrs Dewsbury and Mrs Lowry were able to explore a variety of strategies and approaches for developing and supporting children's language learning e.g. using drama to act out the language/story from a children's French book (*Le Loup...*), phonic and language games and activities.

Mrs Lowry and Mrs Dewsbury's confidence in speaking French increased greatly whilst in France, their enthusiasm since their return has had a positive impact on the teaching of French in school. Staff have been developing different approaches to support children to gain a deeper knowledge and understanding of the French culture in French lessons and by embedding it across the curriculum in other subject areas e.g. experiencing French food in Design and Technology, exploring the Geography of France and learning about Château Comtal in an Early Years Foundation Stage topic called *Castle and Dragons*.