



Foreign Languages Policy
January 2019

Rationale

Learning a foreign language provides an opening to other cultures and deepens the child's understanding of the world. It enables pupils to express their ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and writing. Furthermore learning a foreign language provides opportunities to communicate for practical purposes, learn new ways of thinking and read literature in the original language. Language learning should provide the foundation for learning further languages.

Aims

Our aim is to ensure that pupils:

- Understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic resources
- Speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation.
- Can write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using a variety of grammatical structures
- Discover and develop an appreciation of the language studied. To inspire passion for languages and a commitment to the subject.
- Develop a strong awareness of the culture of the countries where the language is spoken.

Assessment

We assess the children's knowledge of French through observations and continuous oral questioning. At the start of a new topic, the teacher conducts a prior learning check to assess what the children already know, in order to build this into the teaching. Summative assessment in the form of an assessment booklet will commence in Spring 2015 for Years 3-6. Progression will be tracked as the child progresses through the school.

Inclusion and Equal Opportunities

French is taught to all of the children in our school. Differentiation of tasks, open ended challenges and support prompts enable the children to develop at their individual pace and level. The exposure to real life scenarios and the use of authentic materials ensures appropriate learning opportunities.

Teaching and Learning

The teaching of French provides an appropriate balance of spoken and written language in KS2, which enables the children to understand and communicate ideas, feelings and facts about themselves and others in speech and writing. The teaching focuses on familiar and routine matters and gives opportunities to apply their knowledge of grammatical structures.

The main focus of learning is on communication: to read and understand fluently, to speak confidently, to write imaginatively and to understand the culture of the French people.

Foundation Stage

French is taught each week to Early Years, with a focus on speaking and listening to the language. Teaching is visual and practical, using a wide range of physical resources, music and songs.

Whole School Initiatives

We hold termly competitions and provide opportunities to present the children's French in assemblies.

Visits to France

Alternate years, Years 5 and 6 have the opportunity to practise their French and experience the French culture first hand on a residential in France. The children experience the French cuisine and a range of excursions to authentic French sites.

German and Spanish

Pupils in Year 6 are given a taste of German and Spanish , in the last term of the academic year. This gives the children an opportunity to deepen their awareness of other cultures and languages.

Latin

In Year 6 the more able children are given the opportunity to learn Latin. The focus of the teaching is on providing a linguistic foundation for understanding texts and an appreciating classical civilisation.