

ST JAMES' RC PRIMARY SCHOOL'S MFL POLICY

Faith in action,

Growing together,

Walking in the footsteps of Christ.

Introduction

In our school we teach a foreign language to all our KS2 children as part of our normal school curriculum. We believe that a Modern Foreign Language prepares pupils to participate in a rapidly changing world in which work and other activities are often carried out in languages other than English. The rise of international commerce means that pupils need to be equipped with the skills needed by the international workplace. The choice of which language to teach is secondary to the lifelong language learning skills that the pupils will be encouraged to develop. Skills that they will be able to access in the future will help them to learn new languages or improve their competence in an existing language. Increased capability in the use of MFL promotes initiative, confidence and independent learning and encourages diversity within society.

Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of learning a modern foreign language in primary school are:

- To foster an interest in learning other languages;
- To introduce young children to another language in a way that is enjoyable and fun;
- To make young children aware that language has a structure, and that the structure differs from one language to another;
- To help children develop their awareness of cultural differences in other countries;
- To develop their speaking and listening skills;
- To lay the foundations for future study.

Organisation

KS2 children have a regular thirty minute lesson of modern foreign language a week, in order to ensure progression and skills development. The lesson is taught by a specialist French teacher. French is the modern foreign language that is taught in our school. The curriculum that is followed is based on the guidance given in the revised National Curriculum, using the Lightbulb Languages scheme of work as a framework:

The children are taught to know and understand how to:

- Ask and answer questions;
- Use correct pronunciation and intonation;
- Memorise words;
- Interpret meaning;
- Understand basic grammar;
- Use dictionaries;
- Work in pairs and groups, and communicate in French;

- Translate passages in French
- Read passages in French
- Look at life in another culture.

During French sessions children are given the opportunity to work as a class, as individuals and as part of a group. The choice of class organisation is determined by the learning task. By its nature MFL will involve lots of interaction with visual, auditory and kinaesthetic prompts.

Resources

All French resources are currently stored in the staff room, ICT suite or in the shared area between Year 3 and 4.

Monitoring

Monitoring is carried out by the Head teacher, LMT and the MFL coordinator, in the following ways:

- Informal discussion with staff and pupils
- Pupil Interviews
- Learning Walks
- Planning scrutinies
- Work sampling
- Classroom observation

Inclusion

All KS2 pupils shall have the opportunity to develop MFL capability. The school promotes equal opportunities and fairness of distribution of MFL resources. Children with other languages at home are encouraged to use them for educational benefit and parents are offered advice about what is appropriate. Efforts are made to ensure that languages used at home are highlighted in the classroom once a teacher has been notified. Groupings for MFL will generally follow the same pattern as for all lessons. It is appropriate to match pairs of equal ability, and it is also appropriate to plan to have peer tutors for some lessons where the objectives also enable the more able user to learn by specifically teaching.

Assessment, Recording and Reporting

Most assessment is formative and is used to support teaching and learning and inform future planning. The MFL teacher assesses the children's progress based on their achievement of the learning objectives in lessons. The teacher is provided with an assessment sheet at the end of each session and it is stored in their MFL folder. If any written MFL work is produced, it is marked with green highlighters and stamps. Years 3-6 have French books that are kept in the ICT suite. At the end of each term Classroom Monitor is updated by the MFL teacher and the Subject Leader monitors these assessments. Serge Questions are displayed in classes to help children to remember more and the children have vocabulary jars that are used after the October half term.

Curriculum

Please refer to the Curriculum Grid.

There is no National Curriculum for the teaching of languages for Key Stage 1. However at St James' we look for all opportunities to enhance the children's awareness of languages.

Rationale for other languages and celebrating community languages.

- Spanish Club is offered to KS1 and KS2
- Children who speak other languages are always celebrated in school
- On International Day we encourage children to learn the greetings of the countries studied (on rotation)
- We engage with parents and offer opportunities for them to come in to school and run conversational sessions
- During the May we ask parents who speak other languages to lead prayers to Mary in other languages.
- We look for opportunities to celebrate any languages as they arise.

Monitoring and Evaluation

This policy will be updated in line with any new developments in the school and/or any new government guidance.

It was last reviewed in: autumn 2022

It will next be reviewed in: autumn 2025

This statement of policy was approved by the Governing Body at their meeting on:-

Date: _____

Signed:

_____ (Chairperson)

_____ (Head teacher)