

Wigan St. Andrew's Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Policy



This policy document sets out the school's aims, principles and strategies for the delivery of Modern Foreign Languages. It will form the basis for the development of MFL in the school. Children in Years 3 through to 6 are taught French at St. Andrew's.

"A high- quality languages education should foster pupil's curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. The teaching should enable pupils to express their ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and in writing. It should also provide opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes learn news ways of thinking and read great literature in the original language. Language teaching should provide the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries."

The National Curriculum in England: Key Stage 1 Programme of Study. (September 2013)

Vision

At St. Andrew's we believe that the learning of a language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our pupils. It helps them to develop communication skills and to extend their knowledge of how language works. The linguistics skills gained will assist and lay the foundations for further language learning. Learning another language gives children a new and broader prospective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own cultures and those of others.

Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of learning a Modern Foreign Languages are that children gain enjoyment, pride and a sense of achievement whilst learning to:

- listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding
- explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words
- engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help
- speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures
- develop accurate pronunciation and intonation.
- present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences
- read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing
- appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language
- broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary

- write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly
- describe people, places, things and actions orally and in writing
- understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied.

Organisation and Curriculum

At St. Andrew's we use the Janet Lloyd scheme of work. It is a live scheme which is continually updated and revised in order to meet with curriculum standards. Alongside the planning provided, the network also enriches this through accompanying PowerPoints, podcasts, links to authentic literature, songs, games and culture information.

Children in KS2 are presently taught French by class teachers for 60 minutes a week. Class teachers also revisit and practise the key language focuses with the children during the week. Each class is allocated time with a language assistant, a French native speaker from a local secondary School.

Curriculum Management

The MFL Coordinator will monitor the curriculum and facilitate the use of MFL in the following ways:

- by updating the policy and scheme of work;
- by ordering/updating resources;
- by providing INSET so that all staff are confident in how to teach the subject and have sufficient subject knowledge;
- to keep staff abreast of new developments;
- by taking an overview of whole school planning to ensure that opportunities occur for pupils to develop an MFL capability and that progression is taking place;
- by supporting staff in developing pupils' capability;
- by attending appropriate courses to update knowledge of current developments;
- by management of the native speaker

Staff Training and Development

Staff are informed of current developments through INSET days and staff meetings. The MFL Coordinator attends all relevant meetings and conferences and passes on information to the rest of the staff. Any staff who require training will attend the appropriate courses.

Teaching and Learning Style

We use a variety of techniques to encourage the children to have an active engagement in the French language: these include games, role-play, songs, gestures, air writing, choral and individual repetition. We frequently use mime to accompany new vocabulary as this serves to demonstrate French without the need for translation. All four language skills are taught although we do emphasise listening and speaking skills. We also use a multi- sensory and kinaesthetic approach to reinforce memory. We make the lessons as entertaining and enjoyable as

possible as this serves to develop a positive approach in the children to learning French. We build the children's confidence through constant praise for any contribution they make in the foreign language, however tentative. When possible we invite native speakers into the classroom, in order to expose the children to another voice in the foreign language. We allow for differentiation in a variety of ways including: providing resources of different complexities, tasks matched to the ability of the child, open-ended tasks, peer support etc.

Inclusion

All pupils, regardless of race, gender or ability, shall have the opportunity to develop French language skills. 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.

Assessment

Summative and on-going assessments of language skills are made throughout KS2. The assessment process will be a series of teacher led focussed observations of children to see if they can achieve the specific outcomes desired. Progress is reported to parents at parent's evening and in the end of year written report.

MFL work will be marked in line with the school policy on marking.

Monitoring

The MFL coordinator will monitor planning, assessment and evidence collected (approximately once per term) collating the information gleaned to develop a KS2 language learning profile. This will ensure that there is progression from Y3 through to Y6. Monitoring is carried out by the headteacher (member of senior management) and the MFL coordinator, in the following ways:

- informal discussion with staff and pupils
- observation of MFL displays
- collection of class MFL files
- looking at children's vocabulary books and video recordings.
- classroom observation

The headteacher also reports to the governing body on the progress of children in French in the same way as in any other subject. The MFL coordinator liaises with the local secondary school, so that they are aware of the MFL experience of our children when they move to the next phases of their education.

Review

There is an annual review of this policy by the MFL coordinator and a major review involving all staff will take place every three years.

