

Modern Foreign Languages Curriculum Statement



Intent

The National Curriculum for Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) aims to ensure that all children:

- Understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources
- Are able to speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and that they are continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation
- Can write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt
- Discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied
- Are encouraged to be investigative linguists, looking for cognates and words that they can link to their English vocabulary, giving them ownership of their own learning and fostering a curiosity for foreign languages and the history of how European languages have evolved, particularly linking to the Norman influence on the English language

A high-quality languages education should foster children's curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. At Yealmpton Primary School, we are committed to ensuring that children can interpret, create and exchange meaning within and across cultures. The teaching of MFL also helps children develop skills that will open further opportunities later in life. The teaching of French in KS2 provides an appropriate balance of spoken and written language, as well as intercultural understanding, laying the foundations for further foreign language teaching at KS3.

Implementation

Children are introduced to French in formal lessons from Year 3 and are then taught French every other half term throughout their time in KS2. Children are taught to listen attentively to spoken language and respond, joining in with songs, rhymes and games. Conversational French is revisited each Year, on a cyclical basis, allowing children to gain confidence in speaking and listening in French. Pronunciation is also refined as the children revisit greetings, personal information and the fundamental basics of French conversation.

Following the CGP 'Salut!' planning scheme for French allows for progression across KS2 classes, ensuring that children are building on prior knowledge and improving their understanding of basic grammar and vocabulary alongside their knowledge of the French culture.

In Early Years and KS1, we believe it is very important for children to learn about other backgrounds, cultures and traditions, including other languages. We provide many opportunities for children to explore the wider world through stories, visitors and special wow moments throughout their time in Foundation Stage. This learning is reinforced through cross-curricular links in music and other subjects, allowing access to other cultures and languages as part of their learning about the world around them. As a school, we also celebrate 'European Languages Day' each year through which all children are given opportunities to explore and learn more about the languages that are spoken in both our country and our continent.

Impact

At Yealmpton Primary School, children develop a sense of curiosity about the world around them and the people who live there through their learning in Modern Foreign Languages. Our MFL curriculum ensures that children develop their knowledge of where different languages are spoken in the world, in particular countries that speak French. Children can talk about how different cultures compare to their own and, as children progress through the school, they develop a deeper understanding of our global community and different languages and cultures that are part of it. Children are able to have short conversations in the target language and pronunciation and comprehension becomes increasingly accurate as children progress through the school.