



MFL Policy

The Importance of Modern Foreign Languages

At Rowlatts Hill Primary School we believe that learning a foreign language is a liberation from insularity and provides an opening to other cultures. A high quality languages education should foster pupils' 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. Language teaching should provide the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries. (National Curriculum in England: languages programme of study 2013).

We promote the introduction of a modern foreign language (French) to all Key Stage 2 pupils as it provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our pupils. It helps them to develop communication skills including key skills of speaking and listening and extends their knowledge of how language works. Learning another language gives children a new perspective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own cultures and those of others. To reflect the importance we as a school place on learning French we have annual French Day and encourage pupils and adults alike to immerse themselves in French culture throughout the day and across all subjects.

Key Stage 2

During Key Stage 2 pupils are taught French. This is delivered using the Language Angels scheme of work, which has been constructed to enable teachers to deliver a curriculum which is engaging, exciting, stimulating and challenging. Language Angels is online based which means it is regularly updated and also allows pupils to access games and songs at home. Additionally it enables non-linguist teachers to become increasingly confident in their delivery of French and within the structure of the lessons it also allows teachers to take the initiative to make cross-curricular links where possible.

Key Stage 2 Aims

We aim to:

- foster an interest in language learning by introducing children to French in a way that is enjoyable and accessible to all pupils;
- stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language and creativity in experimenting with it;
- support oracy and literacy, and in particular develop speaking and listening skills;

- help children develop their awareness of cultural similarities and differences;
- lay the foundations for future language study by pupils;
- encourage pupils to compare and contrast differences between learning in French and their first language;
- give an extra dimension to teaching and learning across the curriculum.

Speaking and listening

The children will learn to:

- listen carefully and recognise sounds and combinations of sounds which are similar to, or different from, those of English;
- understand and respond with increasing competence, accuracy and confidence in a range of situations;
- join in songs, rhymes and stories which enable them to practise the sounds of the language in an enjoyable and non-threatening way;
- take part in conversations at an appropriate level, reacting to instructions and questions and expressing opinions and feelings;

Reading and writing

The children will learn to:

- remember grapheme-phoneme correspondences and vocabulary directly taught and reinforced through word games and similar activities;
- read stories and rhymes for enjoyment and to gain awareness of the structure of the written language;
- read, copy and write independently familiar words and simple phrases in context eg classroom items, display labels, weather chart, date;
- write sentences and short texts independently and from memory.

Intercultural understanding

The children will learn to:

- describe the life of children in France;
- identify similarities and differences in everyday life, social conventions, traditional stories and celebrations;
- recognise how symbols, products and objects can represent the culture of a country, and how aspects of the culture of different countries become incorporated in the daily life of others;
- Understand and respect cultural diversity.

Key Stage 1

A whole school approach to Modern Foreign Languages is desirable and so all pupils at Rowlatts Hill Primary School to French. The younger pupils will experience the language through games, songs and topic work which will motivate pupils, be inclusive for all, develop other literacy skills and prepare pupils for KS2.

Resources

Specialist resources have been purchased and are kept in the KS2 curriculum area. There are a range of teacher books, schemes of work, French fiction and non-fiction books as well as puppets, games, flashcards and IT resources to enhance the children's language learning. Interactive whiteboard resources are regularly used and help to promote the interest in learning.

Reviewed: September 2016

Signed: Rev. Clare King (Chair of Governors)

Next review - September 2018