

# Whitchurch Church of England Primary School



## FOREIGN LANGUAGES POLICY

### Rationale

Learning a foreign language is part of the primary National Curriculum and is a requirement for all children within key stage 2 (KS2). At Whitchurch C of E Primary School, our vision is to enable children to learn to enjoy speaking, understanding and writing French. From the beginning of key stage 2, through to our role in transitioning to key stage 3, we will provide appropriate, engaging and enjoyable experiences in order to encourage and equip children, to be able to take part in activities involving the French language.

The teaching and learning is supported and delivered in a systematic, thorough manner and teachers plan and provide a range of activities and games which make learning French fun and relevant. We will extend their knowledge of how language works and explore the similarities and differences between French and English. In keeping with our whole school vision, learning a language, seeing aspects of another culture and exploring cultural identities, play a part in developing children's understanding of who they are and how they learn about themselves and others in the world.

We wish to help our children gain in other proven benefits such as improved memory, problem-solving and critical-thinking skills, enhanced concentration, ability to multitask, and better speaking and listening skills.

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. It should also provide opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes, learn new ways of thinking and read literature in the original language. Our goal is for them to be passionate, curious and confident about their own foreign language learning abilities when they finish the primary school phase of their education in preparation for the next stage of their language-learning journey.

### Aims

Our aim is to develop the confidence and competence of each child in the foreign language they are learning. Our goal is for them to be passionate, curious and confident about their own foreign language learning abilities when they finish the primary school phase of their education.

We will help them develop and demonstrate substantial progress in the 5 key language skills necessary for learning French:

- Speaking
- Listening
- Reading
- Writing

- Grammar

We aim to ensure that pupils of all abilities develop solid foundations in these key language learning skills - properly preparing them for the next stage of their language learning journey. These skills will develop children's ability to understand what they hear and read and enable them to express themselves in speech and writing. We will extend their knowledge of how language works and explore the similarities and differences between the foreign language they are learning and English. We will also help strengthen their sense of identity through learning about culture in other countries and comparing it with their own.

## **Teaching and Learning Overview**

Our whole school approach to language teaching and learning is in line with the recommendations of the National Curriculum and the requirements outlined in the Department for Education Languages Programme of Study for Key Stage 2.

The National Curriculum for languages aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources
- Speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through 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 the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt
- Discover and develop an appreciation of a range of authentic writing in the language studied.

By the end of key stage 2, pupils should be able to:

1. Listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding.
2. Explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words.
3. Engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help.
4. Speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures.
5. Develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases.
6. Present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences.
7. Read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing.
8. Appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language.
9. Broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary.
10. Write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly.
11. Describe people, places, things and actions orally and in writing.

12. Understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied, including (where relevant): feminine, masculine and neuter forms and the conjugation of high-frequency verbs; key features and patterns of the language; how to apply these, for instance, to build sentences; and how these differ from or are similar to English.

Displays of the topics being taught in French will be displayed around individual classrooms (if space allows) or will feature on a general school board.

### **Organisation & Delivery**

French is taught in a whole-class setting by the class teacher and is therefore not reliant on one key member of staff.

Teachers plan their lessons using the Language Angels scheme of work and can supplement this with their own ideas and experience and those of their colleagues.

The lessons are designed to motivate, captivate and interest children from the first moment. They have clear, achievable objectives and incorporate different learning styles. SEN children have access to the curriculum through variation of task, grouping or support from an adult.

Each class has a timetabled lesson of at least thirty minutes per week.

French can also be revisited in short sessions throughout the week to consolidate knowledge and ensure new language is retained.

French lessons include:

- PowerPoints and interactive whiteboard materials
- Interactive games (which pupils can access from home to consolidate their learning)
- Songs & raps
- Differentiated desk-based consolidation activities
- Worksheets (at three different levels of challenge) are provided throughout each teaching unit and can be used in class or can be sent home to be completed as a homework exercise

Each lesson will focus on a combination of the 5 key language learning skills (speaking, listening, reading, writing and grammar).

Below is an example outline of the units we will cover throughout KS2:

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
<b>Early Language</b> Unit – J'Apprends Le Français (I'm Learning French)	<b>Creative Curriculum</b> Unit - Les Habitats (Habitats)	<b>Intermediate Language</b> Unit – En Classe (In The Classroom)	<b>Progressive Language</b> Unit - A L'École (At School)
<b>Early Language</b> Unit – Je Peux... (I Can...)	<b>Intermediate Language</b> Unit – Je Me Présente (Presenting Myself)	<b>Intermediate Language</b> Unit – Quelle Est La Date Aujourd'hui? (What Is The Date?)	<b>Progressive Language</b> Unit – Manger Et Bouger (Healthy Lifestyle)
<b>Early Language</b> Unit – Les Animaux (Animals)	<b>Intermediate Language</b> Unit – En Famille (The Family)	<b>Intermediate Language</b> Unit – Quel Temps Fait-Il? (The Weather)	<b>Progressive Language</b> Unit – Le Week-end (The Weekend)
<b>Early Language</b> Unit – Petit Chaperon Rouge (Little Red Riding Hood)	<b>Intermediate Language</b> Unit – Boucle d'Or Et Les Trois Ours (Goldilocks & The Three Bears)	<b>Intermediate Language</b> Unit – Au Café (At The Cafe)	<b>Progressive Language</b> Unit – Le Week-end (The Weekend)
<b>Early Language</b> Unit – Les Légumes (The Vegetables)	<b>Intermediate Language</b> Unit – As-Tu Un Animal? (Do You Have A Pet?)	<b>Intermediate Language</b> Unit – Chez Moi (My Home)	<b>Progressive Language</b> Unit - Moi Dans Le Monde (Me In The World)
<b>Early Language</b> Unit – Les Légumes (The Vegetables)	<b>Core vocabulary</b> Colours Days of the week Numbers	<b>Intermediate Language</b> Unit – Les Vêtements (Clothes)	<b>Progressive Language</b> Unit - Moi Dans Le Monde (Me In The World)

## Resources

The Language Angels scheme is a fully online resource enabling all teachers in all classes to have instant and continuous access to all the resources they need to teach whichever lesson they choose.

## **Evidence of Teaching & Learning and Transition at End of Key Stage**

Where appropriate worksheets completed by the children may be kept in their folders, which can be passed through the years and become a portfolio of their learning.

At the end of year six, children complete a transition assessment which can be passed on to Secondary schools.

## **Assessment of Pupil Learning & Progression**

Two forms of assessment are available at the end of every Language Angels unit:

1. Peer and self-assessment 'I can do...' grids. A quick and easy way for all pupils in the class to record which units they have completed and the progress they are making.
2. More detailed skills based assessments using bespoke skills assessment worksheets. This form of assessment enables us to determine the learning and progression of all pupils in the key language learning skills as well as monitoring their progress against the 12 attainment targets stipulated in the DfE Languages Programme of Study for Key Stage 2.

## **Monitoring and evaluation**

The Subject Leader monitors the effectiveness of the language teaching provided throughout the school via regular termly observations with feedback given to teachers delivering foreign language lessons. The Subject Leader and class teacher will together monitor the learning and progression made by pupils across the key stage.

The Subject Leader will encourage, where appropriate, class assemblies and presentations in French. They will also encourage cross-curricular topics be taught in French to knit together various areas of the curriculum.

All data, ranging from evidence of classroom teaching to individual pupil skills reports, is securely stored on a password protected database. This can be accessed by class teachers, the Subject Leader and SLT so all key stakeholders can evaluate delivery, performance and progress. This data can be presented to parents at parent-teacher meetings and will also be used to ensure the Foreign Languages SEF is updated as appropriate.