



Modern Foreign Languages Curriculum Statement

At St Catherine's Primary School our aims are to fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum for Modern Foreign Languages.

Intent

At St. Catherine's, we aim to spark the children's passion for learning languages and encourage them to learn languages in an enjoyable and stimulating way. Learning a modern foreign language is required by the National Curriculum in KS2. However, we believe children in KS1 and EYFS benefit from frequent exposure to languages other than English.

At St. Catherine's we have a unique opportunity and responsibility to foster the love of different languages and cultures. Indeed, over 50 different languages are spoken in our school! Our aims, therefore, are to:

- Foster curiosity and understanding of the world through French language and culture.
- Help children develop their awareness of cultural similarities and differences.
- Encourage children to express their thoughts and opinions in French with increasing confidence and fluency.
- Develop accuracy in pronunciation.
- Expose the children to reading literature in the original language.
- Spark the love of languages and lay foundations for studying at KS3 level and beyond.

Implementation

The aims stated above will be achieved through a series of formal and informal teaching events conducted in all year groups starting in Nursery and all the way to Year 6.

1) Teaching and Learning

The sessions are taught in Year 3-6 by a specialist teacher. Years 3-4 receive two 15-minute sessions of teaching a week. Year 5-6 receive 30 minutes of teaching once a week. Knowledge organisers should be stuck in books at the beginning of each half term as well as shared with families. Stickers with learning objectives and where appropriate, speaking frames/key vocabulary/children's work should be stuck in books and dated.

Where needed, the following should be indicated in books: TA support, SEND, absence.

Where appropriate, teachers give opportunities to practise French in other contexts such as giving classroom instructions in French, counting in Maths or greetings during the daily register. Children in KS1 and EYFS are given opportunity to learn at least one song, finger rhyme or a story per term to lay foundations for their future studies.

Pupils will be taught to:

- Listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding.
- Join in songs, rhymes and stories enabling them to practice pronunciation and key vocabulary.
- Take part in basic conversations, react to instructions and answer questions.
- Recognise and discuss the geographical, linguistic and cultural elements of the French culture.



- Read and write familiar words and phrases in Years 5-6.

2) Planning and resources

French is taught using the Primary French Project scheme, a pilot programme conducted in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, in collaboration with Association for Language Learning, Institut Français Royaume-Uni and Network for Languages, as well as St. Cuthbert's High School (feeder high school). Teaching and assessment are fully resources for Years 3-6, and a bank of stories, songs and finger rhymes are available to teach to younger children. The slides are complete with recordings of native speakers as well as links to helpful sites.

The scheme provides CLIL activities (Art, Music, Maths, PE, Geography etc.) as well as use of ICT in French lessons. These should be used by teachers at their discretion.

3) Assessment

Assessment in KS1 and EYFS is not required. In Years 3-6, most assessment is formative and aimed at informing future planning, however, summative assessment will be conducted at the end of school year where reading, listening and speaking will be assessed. This will be recorded in books. A spreadsheet recording the concepts covered should be updated each term and forwarded to the teacher for next year.

4) Broader curriculum

Twice a year, children participate in whole-school events, celebrating languages and diversity: European Language Day in September and Diversity Day in May. During these events, children should be given opportunity to learn about another culture/language, discuss the similarities and differences with their own culture and language, and experience elements of another culture/language (music/dance/cuisine/festivals). The work, photos and pupils' voice will be recorded on display boards around the school.

Impact

The above aims, processes and opportunities will allow the children to develop an enjoyment of learning languages, awareness of the similarities and differences between languages and will spark interest in cultures other than their own.

Linguistically, the children will be able to engage in basic conversation, respond to instructions, describe people, places and objects, as well as use phonetic knowledge to read unknown words.

The new scheme shows clear progression, and the children are able to use the vocabulary they've learnt and linguistic knowledge in new contexts throughout the programme. What is more, the scheme continues to Year 7, providing continuity and progression across Key Stages 2 and 3.