



Modern Foreign Languages

October 2020

Reviewed by LC	October 2020
Next Review Date	October 2023

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Policy

Curriculum Intent

Each child will start learning – seeking knowledge and developing skills – to prepare them to make their way and to contribute, to make changes and to thrive in our changing world of challenge and delight. In this, we aim to...

- Develop foundations and individual enthusiasm for life-long learning.
- Inspire curiosity, confidence and creativity in all children.
- Teach the children with their strengths and interests in mind.
- Create many opportunities to spark interest for all children.
- Encourage a secure and positive attitude towards others and the environment.
- Be ambitious for every child, whatever their prior attainment or need.
- Encourage resilience through understanding the importance of making mistakes, listening and responding to feedback and being open-minded.

Aims and Rationale

As the UK is becoming an increasingly multicultural society, we have a duty to provide our children with an understanding of other cultures and languages. The teaching of French at Beckley C of E Primary School provides excitement, enjoyment and challenge for pupils, helping them to become enthusiastic and curious learners, developing positive attitudes to language learning through life. Children are encouraged to develop an awareness of cultural differences through the study of language and other countries. Language also lies at the heart of ideas about individual identity and community, and learning another language can help to shape children's ideas as well as giving them a new perspective on their own language.

In French lessons, children approach a broad range of learning activities in a new and challenging context; these relate to English as well as other subject areas such as mathematics, geography, music and citizenship. This can lead to deep learning and significant gains in their general understanding as they reflect and reinterpret existing knowledge.

Following research taken with local secondary schools, we have chosen to teach French at Beckley, to lay the foundations for future French language learning. By the end of Key Stage 2, children should have developed the skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing, necessary to enable children to use and apply their French learning in a variety of contexts.

Curriculum

At Beckley, French is taught weekly in Years 4-6 by the MFL Co-ordinator (Year 4/5 Class Teacher) and in discrete planned sessions in Year 3.

We use the KS2 Languages Framework as the basis for implementing the requirements of the programme of study for MFL. Our French curriculum is designed to progressively develop children's skills acquisition, and their ability to use and apply a growing bank of vocabulary

organised around topics. Children are encouraged and supported to develop their speaking and listening skills through conversational work, singing activities and games. As confidence and skill grows, children record their work through captions and more detailed sentences. The natural links between languages and other areas of the curriculum can enhance the overall teaching and learning experience. Languages other than French may be used within individual topics, but French will be the main, assessed language.

Teaching and learning strategies within French lessons can include:

- learning French vocabulary;
- asking and answering questions;
- using bilingual dictionaries;
- teaching of basic French grammar and spelling patterns;
- playing games and learning songs;
- using language that has been taught in role play situations;
- researching and learning about life in France;
- beginning to write phrases and sentences.

A whole school approach to MFL is desirable, so although MFL is optional for Reception and KS1, teachers are encouraged to start introducing MFL as a way of enhancing both the EYFS and the KS1 National Curriculum. Language songs, games and activities are enjoyable, motivating and inclusive and also develop other literacy skills.

Assessment

Teachers regularly assess French as part of every lesson. Written or verbal feedback is given to help guide children's progress and this information helps the teacher to adapt subsequent planning. Other assessment activities help the teacher to measure individual progress against a number of key, year-group-specific objectives at several points throughout the year, in line with the school's assessment cycle. Assessments are based on the Progression Statements from the Key Stage 2 Framework for Languages, as well as Target Tracker.

Monitoring

Monitoring of the standards of children's work and the quality of teaching in MFL is the responsibility of the MFL co-ordinator, supported by the Senior Leadership team. The work of the MFL Co-ordinator also involves supporting colleagues in their teaching, keeping an up-to-date knowledge of current developments in the subject, and providing a strategic lead and direction for MFL in the school. Monitoring activities include reviewing samples of children's work and undertaking learning observations/walks to see MFL teaching across the school. The MFL co-ordinator keeps samples of children's work in a portfolio, which demonstrate the expected level of attainment in MFL for each year group from Years 4-6.

Review

The implementation of this document will be monitored by the MFL Co-ordinator and Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and will be updated in line with new initiatives. This document will be reviewed in October 2023.