



Modern Foreign Languages Policy

Aims and Objectives

Modern Foreign Languages promote an interest and curiosity about the wider world and a sense of European/International Identity. Languages raise children's awareness of being a global citizen.

The aims of Modern Foreign Language teaching are to enable all children to:

- develop an enthusiasm for learning languages and to become aware of the benefits of understanding and speaking different languages;
- communicate in other languages by speaking and listening, reading and writing;
- respect and understand other cultures, heritage and multilingualism;
- become involved in the International Dimension of the school through the development of links with other countries;

Teaching and Learning Style

At Brookside Primary School we aim to make Modern Foreign Languages an enjoyable learning experience. Our focus language is French, although we also aim to promote an awareness of other languages and cultures.

At KS1, children will have access to French through rhymes, songs, simple phrases and vocabulary. The opportunities for speaking and listening will develop an awareness of the French language and introduce French culture.

At KS2, children will continue to develop their spoken language skills and will also be introduced to the written word. They will begin to communicate in French by speaking, reading and writing. Teaching and learning will involve repetition using a variety of methods, including songs, games and role play. The use of ICT is an integral part of Modern Foreign Language teaching, the use of the internet and e-mailing provides children with a direct insight into other cultures and a method of communicating with other countries.

We will work to maintain links with our partner school in Uxegney, France by sending artwork, letters and emails on a regular basis. We will also work towards gaining the International Schools award, therefore linking us with other schools and cultures.

Modern Foreign Language Curriculum Planning

At present, our school uses the Modern Foreign Language Scheme of Work, written by the QCA Schemes of Work as the basis for its curriculum planning. This scheme ensures that the topics that the children study in modern foreign languages build upon prior learning. While there are opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge in each lesson, the planned progression built into the scheme of work means that the children are increasingly challenged as they move through the school.

Cross Curricular Links

Modern Foreign Languages compliment the teaching of English by actively promoting the skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. Children's understanding of English can be enhanced by comparing similarities and differences between English and other languages.

The awareness and understanding that children develop through counting, understanding the calendar and telling the time in a foreign language, complements skills taught in Maths.

ICT is used at Key Stage 2 during the teaching of Modern Foreign Languages. The school aims to use a variety of software, the internet and e-mailing, together with audio recordings.

The teaching of Modern Foreign Languages links with other Foundation subjects. Geographical links can be made when considering the location of countries and comparisons can be made with them and our country. Historical links can be made which help to form a basis of understanding of the heritage and culture of different countries. Children will become aware of how the history of other countries is connected with the history of our country. When learning science related vocabulary, connections can be made with the Science curriculum being taught in our school. Children develop their language skills through songs and rhyme providing links with music. Cultural links can also be made through the teaching of Art and Design, Design and Technology and RE.

The experience of learning a Modern Foreign Language can help develop children's social skills by enabling them to communicate effectively with others. It promotes an understanding and respect for the way in which other cultures are different or the same as ours. This experience compliments the issues raised during the teaching of PSHE in our school. It develops the children's awareness of multiculturalism, both in our country and in the world as a whole.

Teaching Modern Foreign Languages to Children with Special Educational Needs

As an inclusive school we recognise the need to tailor our approach to support children with special educational needs as well as those who are identified as gifted and talented. French workshops for gifted and talented children will take place during the school year.

Assessment and recording / Monitoring and review

Teachers assess children's work in Modern Foreign Languages based on a series of "I can" statements (the Language Ladder) and can be made as an integral part of teaching the lessons, through observation and questioning. For additional information regarding monitoring and review please refer to the school's 'Curriculum Policy'.

Resources

Resources need to be further developed as we work towards 2010. Current resources include: 'homemade' books covering themes such as clothing; thematic worksheets and Power Points on the staff shared website; a set of French – English Dictionaries.

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