

ST MICHAEL'S CE (VC) FIRST SCHOOL



'Through God we love, laugh and learn'

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES (MFL) POLICY

Date Approved: _____

Signed: _____

Print Name: _____

Date to be Reviewed: _____

St Michael's CE (VC) First School

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES (MFL) POLICY

This MFL policy reflects our school vision:

Our Church of England School community where all children can grow into confident, happy individuals with a love of learning. Where curiosity, independence and a feeling of self-belief are encouraged and valued by all.

Intent

At St Michaels, our intent is to spark an interest and love in all of our children to pursue a foreign language in the future. This is achieved by introducing the children to our chosen MFL, French, which then continues to be taught in both feeder middle schools. The school mainly focuses on teaching French as its modern foreign language; however, it also helps to promote and develop a broader intercultural understanding through our worship and wider curriculum.

In order to flourish, thrive and develop into happy adults who contribute effectively to society, pupils at St Michael's CE (VC) First School develop their personalities and behaviour through the specific focus on important values that enable them to reflect, learn, behave with integrity and work consistently well with others. With these skills, combined with the development of responsibility and resilience, pupils are then able to draw upon their understanding in order to engage and excel in the ever-changing world in which they live both now and in the future.

We intend to provide a good grounding and foundation in words and phrases and explore the culture of France. Developing a confidence and proficiency in using the English language will always remain the school's priority, however by introducing foreign language and culture learning interventions, we are widening the children's understanding of life outside of the local area and enriching their learning.

We do this for several reasons and in the belief that:

- many children really enjoy learning to speak another language.
- the earlier a child is exposed to a foreign language, the faster the language in question is acquired.
- it is a good idea to introduce a new language to children when they are at primary school, as they tend to be less self-conscious about speaking aloud at this stage of their development.
- the early acquisition of a foreign language facilitates the learning of other foreign

languages later in life.

- the learning of a foreign language in primary school provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for all pupils.
- the learning of a foreign language provides a medium for cross-curricular links and for the reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other subjects.

Our aims in teaching MFL are as follows:

- to foster an interest in learning other languages;
- to introduce young children to another language in a way that is enjoyable and fun;
- to make young children aware that language has structure, and that the structure differs from one language to another;
- to help children develop their awareness of cultural differences in other countries;
- to develop their speaking and listening skills;
- to lay the foundations for future study.

Implementation

In order to achieve these aims the teaching of MFL is organised in the following way: French is taught in all KS2 classes in a weekly lesson, following the PlanIt Scheme. During lessons each child will be given the opportunity and encouraged to:

- ask and answer questions;
- use correct pronunciation and intonation;
- memorise words;
- interpret meaning;
- understand basic grammar;
- work in pairs and groups, and communicate in French;
- look at life in France/French Culture.

Language learnt will also be incorporated into everyday life at school where appropriate. For example, correct French vocabulary could be used when answering the register; children could be asked how their feeling; when choosing the correct classroom equipment.

Impact

Pupils at St Michael's CE (VC) First School are confident, polite and considerate to both those familiar to them and those who are not. They have a sound understanding of the meaning and importance of our school values and the essential requirements for effective communication and the development of positive relationships; they leave us well equipped to successfully embrace and enjoy their ongoing education with a very real view of being an effective and happy contributor in today's world.

The children are assessed in order to ensure that they make good progress in this subject.

This is done in two ways:

- informally during the lessons in order to evaluate what the children have learned.
- using the end of unit assessments from within the PlanIt Scheme.

Assessment is in three key areas:

- listening and responding;
- speaking;
- reading and responding

Inclusion

When teaching MFL we aim to deliver an inclusive curriculum for all pupils by:

- setting suitable learning challenges
- responding to pupils' diverse learning needs
- overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils

MFL and the Primary Curriculum

The teaching and learning of MFL is in line with the National Curriculum. The MFL curriculum takes into consideration individual and differentiated needs of the children. Here at St Michael's, we follow the PlanIt French scheme of work for KS2. The scheme has been designed to help plan and teach outstanding lessons that meet the aims of the 2014 National Curriculum for Languages. All resources are made by qualified teachers and language specialists and include full audio support for non-specialists.

Roles and responsibilities

The Subject Leader's Role

The duties and responsibilities of the MFL subject leader include the following:

- To read, understand and interpret the National Curriculum for MFL
- To review and keep up to date the MFL policy and scheme of work
- To keep under review the updating and regeneration of all the MFL resources in school
- To attend relevant courses
- To be aware of developments in the school to improve the attainments of the pupils in MFL
- To liaise with local middle schools to make them aware of the language experience of the children when they move on to Upper Key Stage 2

The Role of the Class Teacher:

- To follow and uphold this policy.
- To be responsible for ensuring that the pupils in his/her care are taught thoroughly

and purposefully and that the best possible learning environment prevails, where pupils of all abilities can flourish.

- To be responsible for planning the delivery of the agreed schemes of work and assessing the children in their year group.
- To ensure any visitors invited into school, to support or enhance our curriculum, deliver within our agreed school policy and programme.

Equal opportunities

The safety, welfare and well-being of all pupils and staff is a key priority at St Michael's CE (VC) First School. We actively promote values of respect and equality and work to ensure difference, diversity and inclusion is celebrated across the whole school community; promoting respect and equality across all protected characteristics, including sexual orientation, gender identity and family diversity, as we prepare pupils for life in diverse 21st Century Britain. These values reflect those that will be expected of our pupils by society, when they enter middle school and beyond in the world of further study. MFL education is a universal entitlement for all children and we expect all children to make the greatest possible progress.

- All pupils will have equal access to the MFL curriculum.
- Gender, learning ability, physical ability, ethnicity, linguistic ability and/or cultural circumstances will not impede pupils from accessing all MFL lessons.
- All efforts will be made to ensure that cultural and gender differences will be positively reflected in all lessons and teaching materials used.