



Languages

Curriculum Statement



Intent

Our Languages Curriculum incorporates the skills and knowledge outlined in the National Curriculum and, through the curriculum, we hope to further foster the children's curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. Our curriculum will enable the children to express their thoughts and ideas in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers - both in speech and writing - with fluency, accurate pronunciation and increasing confidence. Our curriculum is designed to offer the children practical/everyday opportunities to use the French language - alongside learning more about the country of France, its people and its culture. Vocabulary acquisition is central to our language curriculum as without a wide and varied vocabulary our children will be unable to communicate effectively through written or verbal means.

Implementation

French is taught throughout Key Stage 2 and has been chosen as the language of choice following consultation with the school's main feeder high school who teach French, as their primary language, to all Year 7 children. Our scheme of work is logically sequenced so that the children are able to build upon key skills, knowledge and vocabulary acquired in the previous year group. Through practical and real life opportunities, our children will be provided with the opportunity to develop:

- a) their spoken language, so that they are able to speak in sentences with accurate pronunciation and intonation
- b) their reading skills, so that they are able to read carefully and show understanding of words and phrases – appreciating stories, songs and poems in French
- c) their written skills, so that they are able to write simple sentences and phrases from memory to describe people, places, things and actions – demonstrating a good understanding of French grammar.

Teachers will use a variety of resources to teach French e.g. role play, IT programs etc. taking time to ensure that vocabulary development is a central part of every lesson.

Alongside the development of their language skills, our children will also have the opportunity to learn about the country of France, its people and its culture in order to make learning links and to ensure that our children are not taught knowledge and skills in isolation – thus learning is real and has both meaning and purpose.

Pre and post topic assessments are completed in order to show progress and to highlight any knowledge gaps and a 'fast five' activity is used to start off every French lesson in order to re-inforce and consolidate knowledge from the previous lesson. Teachers refer back to previous learning and share with the children how their learning will be developed and built upon in the next lesson/class so that facts and knowledge can be connected, rather than being taught in isolation.

Work is differentiated to enable children of all abilities and backgrounds to access the French curriculum.

Impact

Our children will be able to read, understand, write and express themselves fluently and confidently – at an appropriate level - using accurate vocabulary and intonation in the French language. The children will have a growing understanding of what it is like to live in France and will be able to talk knowledgeably about its people and culture. Our children will leave St. Mary's with a solid foundation upon which to build future skills and knowledge and will be well prepared for the next stage of their language education.