



MFL Policy

Our school is a welcoming, Catholic community, with Christ at the centre.

Through worship, we come together to listen and speak to God, to spread the Gospel message and to move forward in faith together. As 'Guardians of life and creation'; we work together with respect, understanding, honesty and joy, to develop love, tolerance and justice for all.

We strive for greatness in our learning, we develop our unique talents and each day we take pride in all our efforts and achievements.

Rationale

At St Joseph and St Bede R.C. Primary School we support the view that learning a foreign language is an entitlement as part of an engaging, rich and broad National Curriculum, which provides opportunities for excitement, enjoyment and challenge.

We believe that the early acquisition a foreign language at primary school helps to develop a positive attitude towards language learning and facilitates lifelong language learning.

We believe that learning a foreign language helps to develop an awareness and appreciation of cultural and linguistic diversity. It also helps pupils to extend their communication skills and enhances self esteem.

Aims of Foreign Language Study at St Joseph and St Bede.

The aims of learning a Foreign Language are:

- To foster an interest in learning other languages
- To introduce children to another language in a way that is enjoyable and fun
- To make children aware that language has structure, and that the structure differs from one language to another
- To ensure progress in Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing skills
- To develop positive attitudes to speakers of foreign languages and an understanding of other cultures and civilisations
- To increase confidence and Foreign Language ability in preparation for transition to KS3.

Principles of teaching and learning

At St Joseph and St Bede we teach French as the Foreign Language. In KS2 all pupils are taught by their class teacher, supported by a teaching assistant.

Planning broadly follows the Catherine Cheater Scheme of Work and is cross referenced to the New National Curriculum Programme of Study.

This scheme was introduced in September 2014 to KS2. In consultation with the Head Teacher, staff and advisor, it was decided that everyone would follow the Year 3 planning to ensure all children would receive a firm foundation for learning a Foreign Language.

Teaching and learning styles may vary but we believe that there are two fundamental principles:

- That pupils learn more effectively when they are actively involved
- That purposeful practice in the language is an important and effective way to learn a language

Learning will therefore reflect the need for the pupil to be engaged in activities which:

- Range across all four language skills
- Ensure planned progression
- Use stimulating and creative resources, VAK activities, including the use of ICT, which relate directly to the culture and language connected to the Foreign Language
- Promote personal involvement, responsibility and decision making on the part of the learner, for example Kagan
- Have the potential to stimulate and involve the learner's imagination, emotion, intellect and creativity

We aim to offer between 30-60 minutes per week teaching time, through 1 main lesson by the class teacher and daily reinforcement sessions of 5-10 minutes (by the class teacher or teaching assistants.) We believe that non-specialist teachers and teaching assistants can deliver the teaching of a Foreign Language, provided that they have the appropriate resources and support.

Language learning can also be reinforced informally and incidentally by, for example, using the language for real purposes such as taking the register, classroom commands, giving routine instructions, celebrating achievements, PE.

Foreign Language learning is taught through song, games, role play, activity and daily routines whilst making the maximum use of the target language. Cross curricular links are made wherever possible.

Pupils will learn how to:

- Ask and answer questions
- Use correct pronunciation and grammar
- Memorise words
- Interpret meaning
- Understand basic language and grammar
- Write using the target language
- Use a bi-lingual dictionary
- Communicate in pairs or groups, listen to, and understand, native speakers
- Examine life in another culture

We also offer a lunchtime and an after school French club for KS1 and KS2.

Inclusion Strategy

At St Joseph and St Bede we teach a Foreign Language to all children, whatever their ability, disability, ethnicity or culture. A Foreign Language forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education in line with the National Curriculum of 2014.

Pupils may need additional support, or adapted materials and equipment, so that they too can access learning in the target language. We try to provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make progress.

Cross-curriculum links

The study of a Foreign Language can benefit and support other National Curriculum subjects.

- Literacy- The development of speaking and listening skills, the origin of words, intonation and pronunciation, grammar and sentence construction, text types, poetry, story telling and drama; the identification of patterns and parts of speech; building and reinforcing dictionary skills.
- Mathematics- Counting and numbers, money and currency, time, the date, real life problems, data collection and analysis, distance and speed.
- Science- environmental factors in different countries; parts of the body; lifecycles.
- Geography- Comparison of home and Foreign Language country, similarities and differences (locations, climate, topographical features, culture)
- History- specific periods of history relating to Foreign language countries, eg Victorians- scientists (Louis Pasteur; Marie Curie) artists (Renoir)
- Music- rhyme and rhythm in songs, phrases and words. Listening to music of French composers and musicians
- P.E. – physical responses to instructions, games and dances from other countries
- PSHE- knowledge of other countries, cultures and traditions; promoting sensitivity to difference and others from a multicultural society.
- R.E. – religious customs and traditions; celebration of festivals

Monitoring

The Head Teacher and subject leader monitor the teaching of French at St Joseph and St Bede. Monitoring of the subject includes reviews of planning; observations of lessons; discussions with teachers about their experiences, confidence in teaching FL and professional development needs; discussions with pupils about their experiences, attitudes, achievements and progress; monitoring books and "Celebration of Success" statements.

Assessment, Recording and Reporting

Assessment is ongoing and is usually carried out by the class teacher to evaluate and review what has been learnt, what needs to be reinforced and to inform future planning. Oral feedback for the children is given during the lesson.

Each child has a French exercise book for written work. Vocabulary is at the back, grammar and written work at the front. Children have a "Celebration of success" sheet at the front of their books to review their achievements every term with their teacher, and highlight and date statements achieved. Children can then monitor their achievements and look towards their next steps.

Photos/ video clips can all add to the overall evidence for assessing a child's achievement.

Books are to be monitored by the subject coordinator over the year and reviewed with the class teacher.

St Joseph and St Bede recognises the importance of communicating to parents each child's progress. To this end we have Parent's evenings in Autumn and Spring terms when we inform parents of their child's progress.

This year French will be included in the written end of year report (Summer 2015) and will contain a comment from the class teacher.

Resources

Resources are continually reviewed and at the present time include a wide range of practical resources eg colour/ number beanbags, flashcards, felt and Velcro posters with removable items (body/ transport/ weather/ timetable/ colours), 2 sets of boules, currency. These are stored in the FL cupboard at the back of the KS2 hall.

Catherine Cheater Scheme of work reading books are also kept in this cupboard organised into Year groups.

Sets of English/ French dictionaries (lowerKS2 and upper KS2) are stored in a cupboard in the learning zone.

The school has invested in the Catherine Cheater scheme of work and each teacher has a file copy and a file containing the lyrics from song books, a copy of areas covered by "Espresso", a copy of "Manuel Phonetique".

Each year group has 2 French bears and a copy of the DVD "Mon Ane".

Each classroom can access resources from the school network. "Classworks" contains 2 folders "French" and "French resources." These two files contain a digital copy of the scheme of work and supporting files, and resources such as CD's, songs, books and additional complementary materials organised into topics.

The subject leader stores the original copies of files and CDs.

Staff Development

The school considers staff development and training to be very important. At the present time the subject coordinator has participated in several courses during 2013/14 in order to implement the requirements for the New National Curriculum 2014 for Foreign Languages. The new scheme of work was introduced to staff during a staff meeting in Spring 2 2013 and implemented in September 2014. The subject coordinator will support staff as required and encourage staff to attend any courses which become available.

Parental Involvement/Parents as Partners

At St Joseph and St Bede we value the involvement of parents as partners in their child's education. We encourage the children to use their spoken French outside the classroom and ask parents to be actively involved in homework which involves research and learning. We welcome children who join our school from other countries, encourage them and their parents to share with us their culture and their language.