

Primary Modern Foreign Languages Policy

1. Introduction

In our school we teach to all of our KS2 children as part of the normal timetable.

Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of learning a modern foreign language in primary school are:

- to foster an interest in learning other languages;
- to help children make links and comparisons between English and another language;
- 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.

2. Organisation

We deliver a 2 year cycle to pupils in Year 3 – Year 6. The children are split into Upper and lower juniors for their lessons. This programme is delivered on a regular basis by a specialist member of staff.

3. The curriculum

The curriculum that we follow is based on the guidance given in the National Curriculum. We teach the children to know and understand how to:

- ask and answer questions;
- use correct pronunciation and intonation;
- memorise words;
- interpret meaning;
- understand basic grammar;
- use dictionaries and translation;
- work in pairs and groups, and communicate in the other language;
- look at life in another culture.

4. Teaching and learning style

We base the teaching on the guidance material for modern foreign languages. We have adapted this to the context of our school and the abilities of our children.

We use a variety of techniques to encourage children to respond actively to the modern foreign language; these include games, songs, role-play and activities on the computer.

ICT is a great help in reinforcing language recently learnt. The use of flashcards and mime to introduce new vocabulary avoids the need for translation and the children are given the opportunity to demonstrate understanding in many ways without using English. They are encouraged to speak French whenever they can and are praised for doing so. English is spoken where necessary, as for example when holidays are discussed or cultural differences explained.

Within lessons, they are given the opportunity to work as individuals, in pairs or as part of a group. We make the lessons as entertaining and enjoyable as possible, to encourage and motivate young learners.

5. Assessment

The curriculum guides our work towards the four national attainment targets in modern foreign languages. We evaluate the progress of each child in:

- listening and responding;
- speaking;
- reading and responding;
- writing.

The success of the teaching of a modern foreign language in the primary school is based on the children's enjoyment of the lessons and their willingness to participate. There are no National Key Stage Tests and there is no formal testing in school. They are informally assessed during the lessons by the teacher, and children keep their own record of what they are able to say and understand. We believe it is important to build confidence by rewarding children for the contribution they make in the foreign language.

Tatham Fells CE (VC) Primary School

PmFL Policy

Signed (Headteacher):

Signed (On behalf of the Governing Body):

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