

St Mary's CE School

Modern Foreign Languages POLICY

2020 - 2023

APPROVED BY :

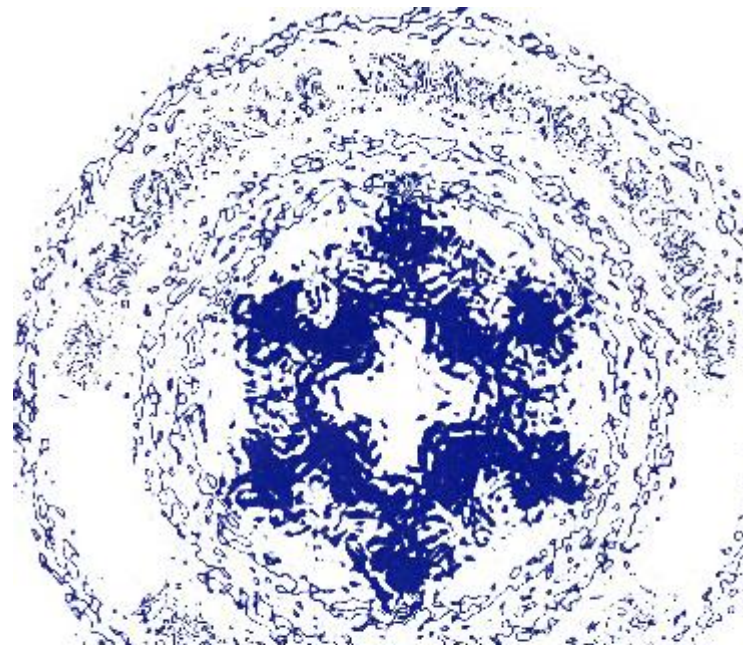
Name: Jo Gill

Position: Chair of Governors

Signed:

Date: Oct 2023

Review St. Mary's C/E Primary School



Modern Foreign Languages Policy

At St. Mary's School we believe that learning a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our pupils. It helps them to develop the key skills of speaking and listening and extends their knowledge of how language works. It provides enjoyment and challenge for children helping to create enthusiastic learners and develop positive attitudes to language learning throughout life. Learning another language gives children a new perspective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own cultures and those of others. The links between languages and other areas of the curriculum can enrich the overall teaching and learning experience.

All Key Stage 2 pupils are entitled to foreign language learning in school time. St. Mary's School recognises the value of this initiative and provides age-appropriate language learning opportunities for all children in Years 3 – 6. The focus language taught in our school is French.

Aims and objectives of Primary Languages education at St. Mary's Primary School

The aims of Primary Languages teaching are to:

- foster an interest in language learning by introducing children to other languages in a way that is enjoyable and accessible to all pupils;
- stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language and creativity in experimenting with it;
- support oracy and literacy, and in particular develop speaking and listening skills;
- help children develop their awareness of cultural similarities and differences;
- lay the foundations for future language study by pupils;
- provide an added perspective on first language teaching and learning; add an extra dimension to teaching and learning across the curriculum.

Speaking and listening

The children will learn to:

- listen carefully and recognise sounds and combinations of sounds which are similar to, or different from, those of English;
- understand and respond with increasing competence, accuracy and confidence in a range of situations;
- join in songs, rhymes and stories which enable them to practise the sounds of the language in an enjoyable manner;
- take part in conversations at an appropriate level, reacting to instructions and questions and expressing opinions and feelings;

Reading and Writing

The children will learn to:

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- read stories and rhymes for enjoyment and to gain awareness of the structure of the written language;
- remember grapheme-phoneme correspondences and vocabulary directly taught and reinforced through word games and similar activities;
- write sentences and short texts independently and from memory.
- read, copy and write independently familiar words and simple phrases in context e.g. classroom items, display labels, weather chart, date;

Intercultural Understanding

The children will learn to:

- describe the life of children in the countries where the language is spoken;
- identify similarities and differences in everyday life, social conventions, traditional stories and celebrations;
- recognise how symbols, products and objects can represent the culture of a country, and how aspects of the culture of different countries become incorporated in the daily life of others;
- recognise and mistrust stereotypes, and understand and respect cultural diversity.

Teaching and Learning Primary Languages

At St Mary's School we endeavour to integrate language learning into everyday school life, with teachers, teaching assistants and children using and experimenting with their knowledge of different languages whenever the opportunity arises. We foster a problem-solving approach, giving children opportunities to work out language use for themselves in a supportive context where risk-taking and creativity are encouraged and there is an emphasis on having fun with the new language.

Language teaching and learning takes place during language lessons. Although Primary Languages cuts across the curriculum, children are taught specific skills, concepts and vocabulary in a dedicated weekly lesson with the class teacher.

Intercultural Understanding

Primary Languages provides a basis for teaching and learning about other cultures, and this is incorporated into many areas of the curriculum including personal and social education and citizenship, geography, religious education, design and technology, music, art and dance. Efforts are made to ensure that teaching material across the curriculum includes a 'flavour' of the countries where the focus language is spoken.

Planning and resources

The Scheme of work adopted by Cumbria LA is from Monkseaton Language College, North Tyneside. It sets out 12 units of work. Three units are covered each school year from year 3 to year 6. This Scheme of Work ensures that there is continuity and progression in both skills and content across all classes. Teachers collaborate over planning, sharing ideas for activities, resources and special events. Published resources including fiction and non-fiction texts, posters, CDs, DVDs, board and card games and interactive computer software are available for use throughout the school.

Staff Development

Keep staff up to date with resources and opportunities for courses. Offer support for class teachers in delivering lessons and using the materials of the Scheme of Work.

Monitoring Progress and Assessing Attainment

Opportunities to monitor the children's progress in Primary Languages are built into our programmes of study. Most assessment is formative and is used to support teaching and learning and inform future planning. Assessments are based on observation of children working on different oral activities and (where appropriate) written product.

Links Outside School

Primary Languages gives us an ideal opportunity for making links outside school. We encourage children to share their experiences of visiting or living in other countries, and we welcome visiting speakers who are able to talk about life in the countries where the focus language is spoken. We make full use of ICT links via approved sites on the Internet, to find out about life in other countries.

Policy adapted and adopted by St. Mary's C/E school staff **Stephanie Neale**

Ratified by Governing Body

Date to be reviewed **March 2023**

Signed:.....
Head Teacher

Signed:.....
Chair of Governors

Date:.....