

Halsall St Cuthbert's C.E. Primary School



Modern Foreign Language Policy

Document Purpose

At Halsall St Cuthbert's we strive to provide our children with an understanding of other cultures and languages. The MFL provision across the EYFS, KS1 and KS2 at Halsall St Cuthbert's Primary School is designed to reflect the multicultural country we live in and encourage children to embrace other languages and cultures. It also takes into consideration the primary MFL entitlement as set out in the National Curriculum 2014.

The key elements of MFL learning at Halsall St Cuthbert's are:

- The main language we study is now French, this has recently changed from Spanish due to staff specialisms and transition into high school.
- Our language learning is inclusive and enjoyable for all.
- Children are exposed to different languages and cultures throughout EYFS, KS1 and KS2.
- French is taught as a coherent programme from Year 3 to year 6 by Class Teachers and specialist qualified teacher.
- The curriculum also encompasses learning about French life and culture through cross curricular links in Geography and cultural links in Religious Education where possible.

The main areas this policy will cover are:

1. Rationale for teaching languages.
2. Aims and Objectives.
3. Current staffing and provision.
4. MFL curriculum planning for KS2.
5. Inclusion.
6. Assessment for learning.

1 Rationale for teaching languages

1.1 Language learning supports oracy and literacy

Children spend most of their time in language lessons speaking, listening and interacting with each other. This emphasis on communication underpins children's capabilities in oracy, which is critical to effective communication as well as a key foundation for literacy.

1.2 Language learning stimulates children's creativity

Children enjoy taking an active part in language lessons. They join in with singing, reciting rhymes and poems, and respond to stories. They play games, take turns and experiment creatively with language.

1.3 Language learning supports and celebrates the international dimension

As we live in a country where there is less motivation to learn another language due to the position of English as a widely-spoken, world language, we work hard to promote foreign language learning to our pupils and help them gain an understanding of the importance of showing willingness to communicate with different cultures and foreign tongue. We believe it is important that we give all children the chance to learn a language in order to gain insights into their own lives and those of others around the world. They need the chance to learn about people in other countries and cultures and to reflect upon their own cultural identities and those of other people. Learning French, and learning about the countries where it is spoken, is also intended to promote aspiration for travel and a broadening of life experience. We are currently linked with a French school in Angers, France. KS2 children have pen pals from the French primary school and take part in occasional technical communication such as zoom, with foreign pupils.

2 Aims and Objectives

Our aims and objectives in teaching MFL are for children to:

- Foster an interest in learning another language
- Develop speaking and listening skills
- Apply and develop their knowledge of languages and language learning
- Gain enjoyment, pride and a sense of achievement
- Explore their own cultural identity and those of others
- Increase personal aspiration.

3 Current staffing and provision

3.1 Staffing

A Specialist French HLTA who is also a qualified teacher, is employed to teach French to each KS2 class for 30 minutes per week, supported by class teachers and support staff.

Class teachers work alongside the Specialist HLTA to promote the speaking and learning of French and teach French discretely throughout the school week.

3.2 EYFS and Key Stage 1

At Halsall St Cuthbert's we believe that early exposure to languages is key and so encourage the language learning process to start early on in Reception.

All children learn vocabulary which is appropriate to their current topics and units in other subjects and where possible use their language skills in a cross-curricular way. Each class teacher also has a list of common classroom phrases in French which they are encouraged to use throughout the school day.

4 MFL curriculum planning for KS2

The planning developed for KS2 will target objectives taken from the National Curriculum 2014. Each year group in KS1/KS2 has its own programme of study, each building on learning from the previous year and each contributing to a secure development of the National Curriculum objectives.

Class Teachers use 'Fantastic French' working walls in class to promote language development during the school work.

French awards are distributed during praise and presentation assemblies to celebrate a love for learning languages.

5 Use of Information Communication Technology

Pupils will be provided with opportunities to develop and apply their ICT capability to support their learning in MFL. They will use CD-ROMS and the Internet selectively to find and view information and Word / PowerPoint to present information. The MFL co-ordinator maintains a list of ICT resources for MFL.

6 Inclusion

Each class in Halsall St Cuthbert's contains children from a wide range of abilities and we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for them all by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. This means that, where appropriate, written work will be differentiated according to ability. MFL is, however, a highly inclusive subject and although the principal aim of the teaching is to develop children's knowledge, skills and understanding, there is also an emphasis on enjoyment. MFL is taught to all children, whatever their ability and

individual needs. We strive hard to meet the needs of those pupils with special educational needs, those with disabilities and those with special gifts and talents.

7 Assessment for Learning

7.1 Assessment in MFL is carried out termly for each pupil by the class teacher and recorded.

7.2 The class teacher keeps examples of children's work from each year group in their own personal French folder. These demonstrate what the expected level of achievement is in MFL for each year of KS2.

Additional Information

Clubs

French club is sometimes offered to pupils as an extracurricular activity dependent on other after school club rotas. French 5 a day workout videos are used during physical development activities to further embed a love for MFL learning.

Cultural days

French Day is occasionally celebrated as part of whole school Geography celebration days.

Homework and Opportunities for learning at home

Sometimes children receive homework to complete at home that is linked to their current lessons. Language learning is promoted to our families through newsletters and activities for families to share at home.

Feeder School Links

We aim to maintain links with Local feeder schools where French is taught in order to support smooth transition. Text books donated from high schools are explored by year 6 prior to the transition period in the summer term.

French Link School

We are currently linked with a French school in Angers, France. KS2 children have pen pals from the French primary school and take part in occasional technical communication such as zoom, with foreign pupils.

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