



The Federation of Middleham (VA) & Spennithorne (VC) CE Primary Schools



Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him.
They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream.
It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green.
It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.

Jeremiah 17: 7 - 8

A PLACE TO LEARN, LOVE & GROW

Modern Foreign Languages Policy

Introduction

A high quality languages education should foster children's curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. At The Federation of Middleham (VA) and Spennithorne (VC) CE Primary Schools we are committed to ensuring that competence in another language enables children to interpret, create and exchange meaning within and across cultures. It also helps children develop skills that will open further opportunities later in life. The teaching of French in KS1 and KS2 provides an appropriate balance of spoken and written language and lays the foundations for further foreign language teaching at KS3. The Federation of Middleham (VA) & Spennithorne (VC) CE Primary Schools follows the national curriculum to ensure knowledge, skills and understanding are taught throughout all key stages. The school has adapted long term and medium term planning from Kapow which details the topics, objectives, knowledge, skills and vocabulary which should be covered. Through this long term planning, the national curriculum breath of study for Modern Foreign Languages is fully covered.

Our core aims are to provide teaching and learning opportunities through the Modern Foreign Languages curriculum that empowers the children to be:

ASPIRATIONAL
RESPECTFUL
RESILIENT

We believe that by having these three aims at the root, will equip our pupils to **LIVE FRUITFUL LIVES** and to **LEARN, LOVE and GROW**.

Curriculum Intent

Aims of the Modern Foreign Languages curriculum

- To foster an interest in language learning by introducing children to other languages in a way that is enjoyable and accessible to all pupils;
- To support oracy and literacy, and in particular develop speaking and listening skills through games, discussion and asking/answering questions;
- To speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say and continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation;
- To help children develop their awareness of cultural similarities and differences; and to provide a vehicle for multi-cultural understanding.
- To lay the foundations for future language study by pupils;
- To give an extra dimension to teaching and learning across the curriculum.

Implementation

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, MfL is experienced through other curriculum areas, where children are exposed to a range of cultures and languages that exist in our world. From KS1, teachers will ensure that the teaching of French is integrated throughout the week, for example, when taking the register, giving instructions or introducing new vocabulary. In KS1, French teaching will take place primarily through singing songs and playing games to familiarise children with new vocabulary and focus on the speaking and listening of another language. From Year 3, planned units will be delivered in timetabled lessons with a clear progression of vocabulary, oral and written skills throughout KS2.

Speaking and Listening

Speaking and listening skills are at the heart of our Modern Foreign Languages curriculum. Children develop knowledge and understanding of new vocabulary orally to build confidence and pronunciation before encountering the written form.

Children will learn to:

- listen carefully and recognise sounds and combinations of sounds which are similar to, or different from, those of English;
- understand simple questions and respond with increasing competence, accuracy and confidence in a range of situations;
- join in with songs, rhymes and stories which enable them to practise the sounds of the language;
- take part in conversations at an appropriate level, reacting to instructions and questions and expressing opinions and feelings;
- memorise and recite short texts, and prepare and give a talk on a familiar subject confidently and with regard for the audience.

Reading and Writing

Children will learn to:

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

Intercultural Understanding

Children will learn to:

- describe the life of children in the countries where the language is spoken;
- identify similarities and differences in everyday life, schools, 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;
- understand and respect cultural diversity.

Effective teaching and learning

We acknowledge that children learn in many different ways and we recognise the need to develop strategies that allow all children to learn in ways that best suit them most effectively. We take into account the different ways that children learn when planning and teaching in order to ensure all children access a full and varied curriculum. We offer opportunities for all children to learn in different ways in French as outlined in our teaching and learning policy.

Planning ensures all children's needs and abilities are catered for within their year groups. Planning is stored on Microsoft Teams. Planning specifies prior knowledge and teachers ensure children's prior knowledge is built up and children are encouraged to revisit vocabulary and consolidate previously taught content.

Enrichment Opportunities

Trips or visitors are planned to complement topics studied and will be scheduled to have maximum impact on learning. Visits are planned to enhance learning and give hands on activity. People with an interest, or expertise, in a particular topic could be invited into school to work with the children. These might be parents, grandparents, other family members, neighbours or representatives of the local community.



Teachers may plan enrichment days to provide an opportunity for pupil to study a topic in more details for the day, giving the opportunity to develop additional skills such as team work, and encouraging them to take part in activities and challenges that are different to their normal everyday lessons.

Middleham has been twinned with Azincourt (known as Agincourt in English) for more than 30 years and activities are organised by Middleham Town Twinning Association. As a federation we are developing links with a school in Azincourt to give the children the opportunity to communicate with French-speaking children, sharing experiences about their daily school lives in different contexts through exchanging letters and virtual class meetings.

Digital Learning

The use of technology to support and enhance pupils' learning is a high priority in school to provide pupils with the necessary skills for the next stage of education, lives in an ever-changing digital society, future careers and ensure that the school offers excellent approach to blended and remote learning (please refer to our teaching and learning policy for more details).

Health and Safety

We must obviously be alert to any possible dangers when working in school. It is very important that children are aware of the safe handling and storage of any tools and equipment. Risk assessments are carried out prior to any visits or visitors attending the school.

Equal Opportunities and Special Education Needs and Inclusion

All children are given opportunities to access the National Curriculum requirement. All children regardless of ability, ethnicity, religion or gender, will be given equal opportunity to access all aspects of the Modern Foreign Languages curriculum. Any child experiencing difficulty in accessing part, or all, of the curriculum, will be supported with the time, materials and equipment to access the activity at their own level where this is practically possible. Planning, resources and displays will reflect positive images of all communities represented in our society.

Impact

Assessment for Learning

At The Federation of Middleham (VA) & Spennithorne (VC) CE Primary Schools assessment is an integral part of the teaching process. The assessment of children's work is on-going to ensure that understanding is being achieved and that progress is being made. Teachers take time to review pupil knowledge, and take the time to use these assessments to inform and adapt future planning. Opportunities for pupils to make connections to deepen understanding is central to learning and this is outlined in our curriculum maps for each subject.

Feedback is given to the children as soon as possible, and marking work will be guided by the school's Marking Policy.

Teachers update the assessment tracker half termly for English (reading, writing and phonics) and Maths and for foundation subjects following a topic (at least termly) to record progress and objectives covered. MfL will be assessed using the tracker from Year 3 to Year 6.

Subject Leaders monitoring

The subject leader reviews standards and monitor the impact of the curriculum provision whilst also ensuring training and resources are up to date.

Monitoring and review

We are aware of the need to review the school teaching and learning policy regularly so that we can take account of new initiatives, pupil needs, changes in the curriculum, developments in technology or changes to the physical environment of the school