

Darwen St James'
C of E Primary Academy



**Modern Foreign Languages
(MFL) Policy
2021-22**

Updated 9/11/21

Mrs Davis

1 Introduction

1.1 At Darwen St James we teach a Modern Foreign Language to all key stage two children as part of the normal school curriculum. We do this for several reasons. Firstly, we believe that many children really enjoy learning to speak another language. Secondly, we also believe that the earlier a child is exposed to a foreign language, the faster the language in question is acquired. We also believe that it is a good idea to introduce a new language to children when they are at primary school, as they tend to be less self-conscious about speaking aloud at this stage of their development. It is widely believed that the early acquisition of a foreign language facilitates the learning of other foreign languages later in life.

2 Mission

Nurturing ambition through living faith.

Vision

Our academy delivers a purposeful curriculum through its living Christian faith. We nurture ambition in all our learners in order for them to become positive citizens of tomorrow.

3 Aims and objectives

- 3.1 The aims and objectives of learning a modern foreign language in primary school are:
- to foster an interest in learning other languages;
 - 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.

4 Organisation

4.1 We teach the French language to children one hour a week from Reception to Year 6 (not including Year 2) through a French Scheme of work delivered by Junior Jam - <https://www.juniorjam.co.uk/>

5 The curriculum

5.1 French is the modern foreign language that we teach in our school.

5.2 The curriculum that we follow is based on the guidance given in the revised National Curriculum and is based on the QCA Scheme of work. 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;
- work in pairs and groups, and communicate in the other language;
- look at life in another culture.
- Teaching and learning style

5.3 We believe that learning a new language is vital within primary schools because it creates extensive opportunities for pupils and allows them to discover other cultures. Children gain confidence, knowledge and transferrable skills about language learning to take with them to KS3 and help them progress with languages in their further education. In line with the requirements of the National Curriculum 2014, Junior Jam's French PPA Cover lessons are delivered by qualified and experienced teachers and instructors who are native or fluent speakers in their language.

5.4 Junior Jam provides French units for Reception, Key stage 1 and Key stage 2. These units were based around the QCA Key Stage Scheme of Work for French and are in line with the new Languages programmes of study for Key Stage 2: Foreign Language. Lessons are approximately one hour a week.

6 Teaching a modern foreign language to children with special educational needs

6.1 At our school we teach a modern foreign language to all key stage 2 children, whatever their ability. A modern foreign language forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our modern foreign language teaching we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make progress. We do this by setting suitable learning challenges and responding to each child's different needs. Assessment against the National Curriculum allows us to consider each child's attainment and progress against expected levels.

- 6.2 When progress falls significantly outside the expected range, the child may have special educational needs. Our assessment process looks at a range of factors – classroom organisation, teaching materials, teaching style, and differentiation – so that we can take some additional or different action to enable the child to learn more effectively. This ensures that our teaching is matched to the child's needs.
- 6.3 Intervention through SEND will lead to the creation of an Individual Education Plan (IEP) for children with special educational needs. The IEP may include, as appropriate, specific targets relating to the modern foreign language.
- 6.4 We enable pupils to have access to the full range of activities involved in learning a modern foreign language. Where children are to participate in activities outside the classroom, for example, a playground game in a modern foreign language, Junior Jam carry out a risk assessment prior to the activity, to ensure that the activity is safe and appropriate for all pupils.

7 Assessment

- 7.1 Junior Jam continually assess the children in order to ensure that they make good progress in this subject. They do this informally during the lessons, and through the final lesson for each unit where the pupils are assessed on specific objectives. Junior Jam use the four national attainment targets to evaluate the progress of each child in:
- listening and responding;
 - speaking;
 - reading and responding;
 - writing.

8 Monitoring and review

- 8.1 We monitor teaching and learning in the same way as we do all the other subjects that we teach in the school. The headteacher also reports to the governing body on the progress of children in French in the same way as in any other subject. The governors' curriculum committee has the responsibility of monitoring the success of the teaching in French.
- 8.2 The headteacher also liaises with the local secondary schools, so that they are aware of the modern foreign language experience of our children when they move to the next phase of their education.

This policy will be evaluated and reviewed annually.