



French Policy

Date of publication: March 2023

Review date: March 2024

This policy should be read in conjunction with: Teaching and Learning Policy

Introduction

Modern Foreign Language (MFL) is a statutory foundation subject in Key Stage 2. At Moorthorpe we have chosen to study the French language as the initial step into exposing our pupils to our ever expanding, multicultural society. It is a great privilege for our children to have access to lessons that enable them to become well rounded citizens, deepening their understanding of the wider world around them.

Purpose

This policy will outline the aims and purposes of the teaching and learning of French throughout Key Stage 2 in line with the National Curriculum (2014) modern foreign language expectations. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of the whole of the teaching staff.

The key elements of MFL at Moorthorpe are:

- French is the target language.
- The Wakefield "La Jolie Ronde" Scheme of Work is used in all KS2 year groups.
- Reading, writing, speaking and listening are integrated throughout the scheme.
- Language learning is inclusive, inspiring and enjoyable for all.
- The curriculum explores French life and culture through the use of authentic resources and cultural comparisons.

Aims

Our French curriculum aims to ensure that all pupils will:

- leave KS2 with a secure phonic awareness in French including knowledge of the phoneme and grapheme correspondence.
- support pupils to develop their knowledge of grammatical concepts, enabling students to manipulate their spoken and written language.
- have regular opportunities to revisit their learning to embed key concepts to secure their understanding.
- become proficient in the three pillars of progression: phonics, grammar and vocabulary.
- be immersed in the language and culture through the use of authentic materials such as stories, songs, rhymes and other literature.
- prepare our students to be lifelong language learners in KS3 and beyond.

Wider school ethos

We aspire for our children to become caring individuals who show respect and tolerance to all by providing children with a positive and nurturing learning environment. We aim for our children to have a deep understanding of their local community and where they fit within the world and their community.

Teaching and Learning:

At Moorthorpe Primary School Miss Lawton teaches French to Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 for 40 minutes per week. Miss Lawton is the MFL lead and is proficient with her knowledge of the language, speaking at an intermediate level and specialising in this subject during her teaching degree.

In order for good progression in phonics, grammar and vocabulary in French we use a scheme called 'La Jolie Ronde'. This scheme has lesson plans, resources and songs for staff to use. Alongside 'La Jolie Ronde', Miss Lawton is responsible for producing skills progression documents for phonics, grammar and vocabulary in French in order for teaching staff to be confident to plan and teach French with heightened confidence. Pupils are given regular opportunities to listen to a good model of pronunciation from both the teacher and authentic resources such as native speakers on voice recordings, songs, stories, poems, rhymes and conversations to aid their recognition of sound patterns and to support them in accurately reproducing these sounds with independence.

Our French teaching and learning follow the principles of 'high challenge, low threat' and 'mastery learning', which means that we set high expectations for all children while providing the necessary support and feedback to help them achieve their potential. We use a variety of teaching and learning approaches to cater to different learning styles and abilities, including:

- Whole-class teaching and discussion
- Group and paired work
- Independent research and inquiry
- Role-play, drama, and storytelling
- ICT, multimedia, and interactive resources

In consistency with our school pedagogical philosophy, our French curriculum is designed to incorporate the principles of instruction developed by Barak Rosenshine. These principles include:

- Reviewing prior learning
- Presenting new material in small steps
- Providing models
- Guided practice
- Checking for understanding
- Independent practice

Over the two-year curriculum cycle the children will have the chance to take part in enrichment opportunities specified to French. These will include having a native speaker come into school, food tasting sessions and the celebration of traditional French holidays e.g. 'Bastille Day'.

Resources:

We have 'La Jolie Ronde' as a scheme which has electronic and paper versions of planning and resources to support lessons. The planning is in line with the National Curriculum 2014 expectations. Drawing on the skills progression documents produced by Miss Lawton and 'La Jolie Ronde' lessons are well planned to ensure that each year group are supported and challenged within their learning. These documents can ensure that mixed year group classes can be differentiated appropriately with a wide range of approaches such as songs, rhymes, poems and games to keep children engaged and foster a love of learning.

Assessment:

Miss Lawton uses a range of on-going formative assessment to track progress and attainment within each lesson to inform subsequent planning so the children’s needs are being responded to. Children complete both spoken and written work throughout each term, recorded and evidenced either through the Seesaw app for spoken work, or within their dedicated French books. Mr Thorpe or Mrs Birdsall will carry out Pupil Voice surveys to check for knowledge and understanding, and to assess the impact of the taught curriculum. We report children's progress in French to parents and carers through regular parent-teacher consultations and written reports at the end of the year.

Roles and responsibilities:

Miss Lawton has the responsibility for Modern Foreign Languages at Moorthorpe Primary School with the support of Mr Thorpe to develop the long-term plan for French. Miss Lawton teaches French throughout Key Stage Two and is responsible for producing supporting documents that aid the planning and delivery of French. Miss Lawton has the responsibility of attending termly Modern Foreign Languages network meetings to ensure up to date teaching and learning practices are continuously embedded in weekly lessons.

Monitoring and evaluation:

The SLT are responsible for monitoring French throughout school. SLT regularly monitor and evaluate the quality and effectiveness of our French provision through lesson observations, book scrutiny, pupil voice, and feedback from parents, carers, and external partners. This feedback is used to improve and develop our curriculum and teaching practices.

Other documents:

- Vision for French at Moorthorpe
- Curriculum Map and French Long-Term Plan
- Knowledge Organisers
- French Curriculum Overview
- French Action Plan

Governor approval and review dates:

This policy is due for approval by the full governing body on 29th March 2023.

Signed: Mr M. Howlett (Chair of Governors)