

St. Clare's Catholic Primary School

Modern Foreign Language Policy



Members of staff responsible: Mrs Noonan
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The Intent of our Modern Foreign Languages Curriculum

Mission Statement

St Clare's is a Christ-centred family where everyone is valued and respected. We learn and grow, whilst strengthening our relationship with God and one another. Together in His love, we can achieve our full potential.

Play, learn and grow together with Christ

"Learning another language is not only learning different words for the same thing but learning another way to think about things" Flora Lewis

We know that learning a foreign language fosters curiosity and deepens children's understanding of the world. It liberates us from insularity and provides an opening to other cultures. Children grow to appreciate cultural diversity, according dignity and respect to other people's values and beliefs. In developing their ability to communicate in another language it provides new ways of thinking. Pupils are able to express their ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and in writing. Language skills are also vital in improving understanding between people here and in the wider world, - supporting global citizenship by breaking down barriers of ignorance and suspicion between nations. Learning other languages gives us insight into the people, culture and traditions of other countries, and helps us to understand our own language and culture in turn.

At St Clare's we aim to:

- ❖ To develop pupils' communication and literacy skills that lay the foundation for future language learning.
- ❖ To develop linguistic competence, extend their knowledge of how language works and explore differences and similarities between French and English.
- ❖ To enhance pupils' awareness of the multilingual and multicultural world and introduce an international dimension to pupils' learning, giving them an insight into their own culture and those of others.
- ❖ To provide a medium for cross-curricular links and the reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other subjects.
- ❖ To foster an interest in learning other languages
- ❖ To introduce young children to another language in a way that is enjoyable and fun
- ❖ To stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language
- ❖ To encourage children to be aware that language has structure and that the structure differs from one language to another

To help the children to develop their awareness of cultural differences in other countries

Implementation

We believe in a communicative approach in which all Key Stage Two pupils can actively engage in meaningful tasks. French will be exploited to the maximum. All children in Key Stage 2 will be presented with a variety of opportunities and learning experiences to enhance their listening, speaking, reading, writing and grammar in French. The children are taught how to:

- ❖ ask and answer questions with confidence, on a range of topics
- ❖ memorise key vocabulary, phrases and sentences in each unit and use these in context
- ❖ use correct pronunciation
- ❖ appreciate songs, poems and stories in French
- ❖ interpret the meaning of simple written texts and verbal communications
- ❖ understand basic grammar
- ❖ write in French, with increasing stamina and accuracy, throughout Key Stage 2.
- ❖ work in pairs and groups and communicate in French
- ❖ look at life in another culture

Tasks and activities will:

- ❖ have clear, achievable objectives
- ❖ be carefully planned and structured
- ❖ be practical, active and varied
- ❖ involve the use of ICT where appropriate
- ❖ include whole class, small group and pair work
- ❖ promote success and self esteem
- ❖

Teaching and learning style

French is taught in Key Stage Two in accordance with the 2014 Primary National Curriculum in England. The teaching in KS2 centres upon clearly defined Key Skills in the Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing and Grammar of French. These Key Skills support progression across the Key Stage and ensure a balanced curriculum. The interactive scheme used in St Clare's is 'Language Angels'. This comprehensive scheme aids teaching and learning through a wide range of relevant topics and includes songs, poems and stories.

Assessment For Learning (AFL)

Teachers assess children's progress against specific Key Skills in Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing and Grammar for each KS2 class. This is often carried out informally during lessons by asking open ended questions and challenging children to share observations and understanding. In addition, teachers may also make assessments using a more structured, formal approach.

Children's level of attainment and effort in learning French is assessed by teachers and recorded on the KLIP'S document and discussed at the Termly 'Pupil Progress Meetings'. This assessment is then shared with parents via a Termly report and 3 Parents Evenings spread throughout the academic year where parents have the opportunity to discuss their child's progress with staff. We also have an 'Open Door' policy where parents can contact staff if necessary.

Impact

We know our Foreign Language teaching and curriculum is successful if children are engaged with learning and are developing an appropriate balance of spoken and written language, which lays the foundations for future work at Key Stage 3. This should enable children to communicate ideas and develop an appreciation of the diversity and interdependence of cultures.