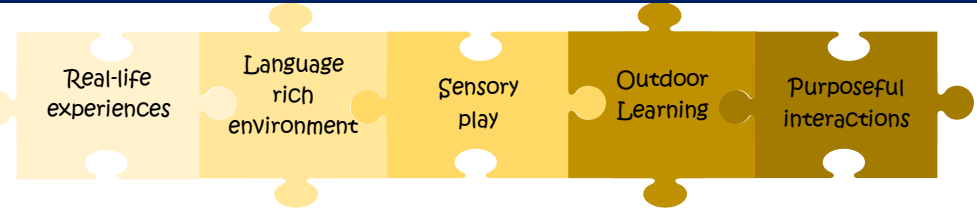
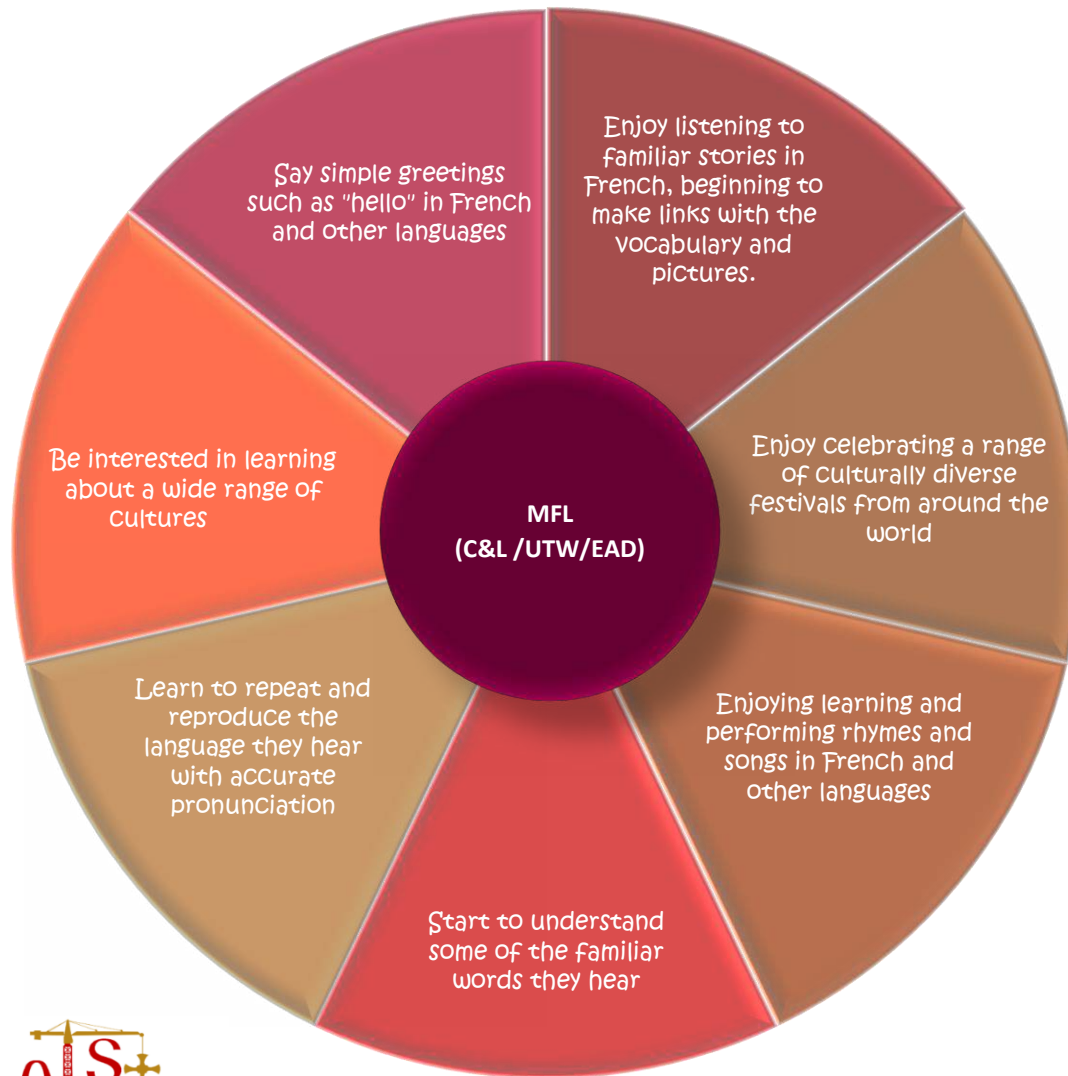


EYFS Curriculum Links



What does MFL look like in Early Years?



There is no statutory requirement to teach a modern foreign language in EYFS, however, at St Aloysius, we feel that it is important to introduce language learning at this early stage in order to lay the foundations and instil curiosity and enthusiasm for further language learning further up in the school.

Our children will learn about other cultures through themed learning and experiences. In EYFS, they will enjoy hearing different languages, listening to the flow and alternative sounds to those they hear in English and they can be fascinated by learning vocabulary for everyday items including types of food, colours and toys.

An area frequently explored is saying greetings in French, in addition to other languages, including Mandarin, Polish and Spanish. Practitioners use their own experience from visiting different countries and from hosting individuals and families from different parts of the world to inform their knowledge. They also access websites which provide games for children in EYFS to practise saying "hello" and "goodbye". Through this, the attendance register is frequently called using different languages and the children respond enthusiastically and appropriately.

Children also enjoy learning about different customs which children in various countries experience, and they can compare them with our diverse customs in Britain. In this way, children can learn about things such as Spanish or French Christmas customs which they can then compare with their own festivities.

Whilst at St Aloysius, children celebrate the language and customs of Chinese New Year and festivals such as Diwali. They learn words and phrases to pass on good wishes to their families and friends. They make decorations, explore and prepare their own dishes and enjoy sharing different cultural experiences with their classmates and teachers.

These early experiences set firm foundations which are then built upon as the children enter into KS1 where they will further develop their knowledge of French through songs, stories, rhymes and carefully planned activities. By the time they reach KS2, where they receive discrete weekly lessons, our children are very well prepared.