

St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School



LANGUAGES POLICY

Mission Statement

At St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary, God is at the heart of our school

We try, everyday, to follow Jesus' commandment 'Love one another as I have loved you'

We do this through love for our families, our friends, and our school

We respect our environment and recognise our responsibility for it

We encourage in each other a love of learning

We rejoice in each others' uniqueness

We place prayer and worship at the centre of everything we do

We are a community of love dedicated to God

Our school is somewhere **We** can grow together

Whole School Curriculum Intent

At St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School, we are deeply committed to developing the gifts and talents each pupil has been given by God. The school's direction stems from its Mission Statement, 'Our School Is Somewhere We Can Grow Together'.

We deliver an engaging and challenging curriculum for every child that attends our school. The National Curriculum forms the foundation for all learning, which has been carefully sequenced to ensure that all children, in particular the disadvantaged and those with Special Educational Needs, are exposed to the richest and most varied opportunities that we can provide.

We have ambitious expectations and will support the spiritual wellbeing of each child by instilling the knowledge, skills and understanding that they need to be aspirational, successful young people, who are confident and well-rounded in an ever-changing world.

Languages Intent Statement

St Francis believe that learning a foreign language is a necessary part of being a member of a multi-cultural society and provides an opening to other cultures. Through the teaching and learning of French we will foster our pupils' curiosity by so engaging them that they deepen their understanding of the world. Using the Language Angels scheme of work and resources, modified to suit our own school's specific needs, we offer a relevant, broad, vibrant, ambitious and challenging foreign languages curriculum that will inspire and excite our pupils using a wide variety of topics and themes. All pupils will be expected to achieve their full potential by encouraging high expectations and excellent standards in their foreign language learning - the ultimate aim being that pupils will feel willing and able to continue studying languages beyond key stage 2.

Aims

The aims and objectives of learning a Modern Foreign Language in primary school are to:

- foster an interest in learning French and other languages;
- introduce young children to another language in a way that is enjoyable and fun;
- stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language;
- encourage children to be aware that language has structure and that the structure differs from one language to another;
- help the children develop their awareness of cultural differences in other countries;
- develop their speaking and listening skills;

- lay the foundations for future study;
- extend language teaching beyond mother tongue learning;
- that every child leaves our school in Year 6 able to hold at least part of a genuine conversation, termed a 'Big Conversation'.

Subject Curriculum Design – Implementation

At St Francis we follow the 2014 National Curriculum Languages which details the programmes of study to be taught to pupils in Key Stage Two.

Key Stage 2

All classes in Key Stage Two will receive weekly lessons in French, using the Language Angels programme of study. This programme is adapted to suit the specific needs of St Francis – see 'Core Grammar' in MFL folder. Children will progressively acquire, use and apply a growing bank of vocabulary, language skills and grammatical knowledge organised around age-appropriate topics and themes - building blocks of language into more complex, fluent and authentic language. Units, where possible and appropriate, will be linked to class topics and cross curricular themes. Children will build on previous knowledge gradually as their foreign language lessons continue to recycle, revise and consolidate previously learnt language whilst building on all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Knowledge and awareness of required and appropriate grammar concepts will be taught throughout all units at all levels of challenge.

Across a half termly unit children are taught how to:

- ask and answer questions
- use correct pronunciation and grammar
- memorize words and phrases
- interpret meaning
- understand basic grammar
- use dictionaries
- work in pairs and groups and communicate in French
- look at life in another culture
- learn songs

Tasks and activities will:

- have clear, achievable objectives
- be carefully planned and structured
- be practical, active and varied
- include whole class, small group and pair work
- promote success and self esteem

Sequencing the Curriculum

The French curriculum has been carefully sequenced using the progressive units from Language Angels. Teachers are provided with a Progression Map and Grammar Grid (downloadable from the “Curriculum Guidance” area of the Language Angels website) to ensure all children are building on their language skills and are taught the appropriate grammar at the right time in their learning journey.

Assessment and Record Keeping

At St Francis of Assisi School assessment is an integral part of the teaching process. In French, most assessment is formative and is used to support teaching and learning and inform future planning. Assessment could be through oral questioning, can-do statements and end of unit assessment. The assessment of children's language skills is on-going to ensure that understanding is being achieved and that progress is being made.

An assessment sheet has been produced by the subject leader, which is easy to use and manage, and which will facilitate assessment.

Inclusion and Special Needs

We aim to meet the needs of all children by an effectively differentiated curriculum through quality first teaching. Where we identify that, due to one or more factors a child is finding an area of learning challenging, measures are put in place to support the child in catching up. These measures are individual and personal to the needs of that child at that time and may be as small as altering an element of our classroom practice. On occasion a child may have a significant difficulty which requires support from specialist strategies or external agencies. Ultimately, we aim to ensure that every single child is fully catered for regardless of their age, gender, race, culture or ability. Where children do find difficulties we are pro-active in our actions.

Monitoring and Evaluation

In French, subject leaders and SLT know that children achieve their very best through regular monitoring which includes lesson visits, book and planning reviews, staff meetings and pupil voice.

Subject Leaders regularly meet and report to link governors

Role of subject leader

The subject leader will be responsible for improving standards of teaching and learning in French through:-

- Pupil progress,
- The quality of the learning environment,
- Taking the lead in policy development,
- Auditing and supporting colleagues in their CPD,
- Purchasing and organising resources,
- Keeping up to date with subject developments.

Reviewed June 2022 PJ