



Corporation Road Community Primary School

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Policy

To be approved by the Governing Body

Chair of Governors: Mrs Val Johnston

Date: June 2018

To be reviewed: October 2020

Introduction

This policy outlines the teaching and learning of Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) at Corporation Road Primary School. The schools policy for MFL is based on the Key Stage 2 Framework for Languages. We believe that learning a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for all pupils. The learning of a foreign language provides a medium for cross-curricular links and for reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other subjects. It raises awareness of the multi-lingual and multi-cultural world and introduces an international dimension to pupils' learning, giving them an insight into their own country, culture and language and those of others. We are keen to promote the introduction of a Modern Foreign Language to all pupils in Key Stage 2 and where possible introduce it in Key Stage 1. As a school we have chosen to study French and Spanish.

Aims

- 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 the target language 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 for reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other subjects.

Objectives

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

- Foster an interest in learning 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 at secondary school.
- Extend language teaching beyond mother tongue learning.

Curriculum content

Children will be taught French or Spanish within KS1 and KS2. A language specialist teacher delivers the lesson. Children are given opportunities to participate in greetings, registers, classroom routines, praise words and songs and games in French or Spanish whenever possible, including introducing basic greetings to children in Early Years and in KS1.

Children are taught how to:

- ask and answer questions
- use correct pronunciation and grammar
- memorise words
- interpret meaning
- understand basic grammar
- use dictionaries
- work in pairs and groups, and communicate in MFL.
- 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 pairs

Cross Curricular Links

Learning another language presents opportunities for the reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other curriculum areas. These opportunities can be exploited through aspects of:

- **Literacy:** development of speaking and listening skills, knowledge and understanding of grammar and sentence construction. Opportunities to compare the other language with English through the use of the new alphabet, rhyming patterns, sound/spelling links, dictionary work, intonation, dialogues, poetry and other text types.
- **ICT:** use of interactive whiteboard and materials from the internet
- **PSHE:** the multilingual society, knowledge of other countries and cultures.
- **Maths:** counting, calculations, the time and the date, money.
- **Geography:** work relating to the study of other countries, points of the compass, weather.
- **Science:** work on parts of the body and animals.
- **Music:** rhyming, rhythm, singing, composition, world music.
- **RE:** international or multicultural work, celebration of festivals, storytelling, calendars, customs.
- **History:** work relating to the study of other countries.
- **P.E.:** physical responses to the teacher's instructions issued in the language being learnt.

Delivery of Curriculum

We use a variety of techniques to encourage the children to have an active engagement in the modern foreign language: these include games, role-play and action songs. We use puppets and soft toys to demonstrate the foreign language, and we also invite native speakers into the classroom to provide an excellent model of the spoken language as well as to involve the children in learning about the culture of country. We use mime to accompany new vocabulary as this serves to demonstrate the language without the need for translation. We emphasise listening, responding and speaking skills with the addition of simple reading and writing skills. We use a multi-sensory and kinaesthetic approach to teaching i.e. we try to introduce a physical element into some of the games, rhymes and songs as we believe this serves to reinforce memory. We make lessons as enjoyable as possible so that the children develop a positive attitude to the learning of modern foreign languages. We build the children's confidence through praise for any contribution they make however tentative.

Assessment

Teachers assess children's progress using the KS2 Framework for languages. Children are assessed informally during the lessons, evaluating progress against the 5 strands in the Framework.

- Oracy
- Literacy
- Intercultural Understanding
- Language Learning Strategies
- Knowledge About Language

Wider Opportunities

Whenever possible the class teachers look for opportunities to enhance their International curriculum and knowledge of the wider world. Looking at different cultures, values and traditions from around the world e.g. learning about different celebrations.

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

In Corporation Road School all children in Key Stage 2 have equal access to the French and Spanish curriculum whatever their ability. French and Spanish forms part of the school curriculum to provide a broad and balanced education to all children and through French and Spanish teaching we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make progress. Delivery will be differentiated appropriately and will work to ensure that all pupils, including those with special educational needs and more able and talented, are provided with appropriate support in their language development. Teaching MFL is a vital way to enhance pupil's perceptions and to promote positive attitudes towards cultural diversity.

Monitoring

MFL will be monitored through pupil discussion and observation of classroom practice. In addition teaching of French and Spanish is delivered by a specialist language teacher who informs staff about current developments in the subject.

Parents and the Wider Community

Parents and carers have an important role to play in helping their children to learn about languages. They can encourage their child to practice the language we learn every week and help to understand the differences in culture.

The school actively encourages visits from local speakers of another target language.