



Tow Law Millennium Primary School Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Policy

Aims and Objectives

The intention of learning a modern foreign language in our primary school are:

- to foster an interest in learning other languages;
- to understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources.
- to introduce young children to another language in a way that is enjoyable and fun;
- to help children develop their awareness of cultural differences in other countries;
- to develop their speaking and listening skills; so that pupils can speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation.
- to help pupils so that they can write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt.

At Tow Law Millennium Primary School, we have a French link school, Chemin des Hayettes, in Amiens. Across the academic year, we work on planned linked projects sharing photographs and videos using eTwinning. This allows our pupils to develop an understanding of life in a French school, alongside real life use of the French language. We feel this is very important due to the fact that the pupils in our school have very limited opportunities to experience life in other countries.

Teaching and Learning Style

We implement our modern foreign language curriculum to pupils within KS2 and 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 songs (particularly action songs). We use a multi-sensory and kinaesthetic approach to teaching, i.e. we try to introduce a physical element into some of the games, as we believe that this serves to reinforce memory. We make the lessons as entertaining

and enjoyable as possible, as we realise that this approach serves to develop a positive attitude in the children to the learning of modern foreign languages. We also use interactive games and sound files to support their skills and aid pronunciation. We build pupils' confidence through constant praise for any contribution they make in the foreign language, however tentative.

Modern Foreign Languages Curriculum Planning

French is the modern foreign language that we teach in our school. The curriculum that we follow is based on the guidance given in the National Curriculum. Teachers use the school's MFL Long Term Plan to enable pupils to build upon prior knowledge. Following this teachers use the mixed age medium term schemes of work from Kapow to support teaching, due to the fact that we have no language specialists. These are then developed into our weekly plans.

We teach the children to know and understand how to:

- listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding.
- explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words.
- engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help.
- speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures.
- develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases.
- present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences.
- read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing.
- broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary.
- write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly.
- describe people, places, things and actions orally and in writing.
- understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied, including (where relevant): feminine, masculine and neuter forms and the conjugation of high-frequency verbs; key features and patterns of the language; how to apply these, for instance, to build sentences; and how these differ from or are similar to English.

Teaching a Modern Foreign Language to Pupils with Extra Needs

We teach French to all pupils in KS2, whatever their ability. It is part of the school policy and ethos to provide a broad and engaging curriculum to all pupils. We provide learning opportunities that are matched to the needs of pupils and use a variety of activities including the use of IT equipment. We see teaching and learning as being founded on the principles of opportunity for achievement and excellence for all. In accordance with our school ethos, we support the development of the whole pupil whilst valuing and celebrating all the special abilities displayed by pupils. We believe that some pupils may have exceptional special abilities and talents and that monitoring these is our responsibility. The more able pupil has particular needs because they demonstrate an exceptionally higher level of ability when compared to pupils of the same age in one or more curriculum areas.

Assessment and Recording

We assess the children in order to ensure that they make good progress in this subject. We do this informally during the lessons, and also by regular assessment to evaluate what the children have learned. We assess the children at the end of each half term using our MFL progression document for each year group. The impact of our MFL curriculum is that children are encouraged to understand the relevance of what they are learning in languages and how it relates to everyday life and travel.

Resources

We have a range of resources to support the teaching of French within the classroom and also use a wide range of IT products to support the teaching and learning.

Monitoring and Review

We monitor teaching and learning of French within the school through observations and discussions with pupils and the year group progression documents.

If you require this information summarised in another language or format please contact the school office on:



01388 730283

Signed:

Date: Autumn 2023

Policy Review: Autumn 2025