

St Laurence Catholic Primary School



***Through God's Grace a
community growing in love and
understanding***

Modern Foreign Language Policy

Updated November 2018

Introduction

This policy document sets out the school's aims, principles and strategies for the delivery of Modern Foreign Languages (MFL).

General statement

The learning of a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for all pupils. Pupils develop communication and literacy skills that lay the foundation for future language learning. The choice of which language to teach is secondary to the lifelong language learning skills that the pupils will be encouraged to develop, skills that they will be able to access in the future, to learn new languages or to improve their competence in an existing language. Learning another language raises awareness of the multilingual and multicultural world and introduces an international dimension to pupils' learning, giving them an insight into their own culture and those of others.

Aims and objectives

The aim of teaching Modern Foreign Languages at St Laurence is:

- to enrich learning for all pupils;
- develop the children's speaking and listening skills;
- to develop phonological awareness;
- foster an interest in learning other languages;
- stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about languages;
- 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 across countries and prevent discrimination;
- lay the foundations for future study;
- prepare pupils for life beyond school.

Organisation

At St. Laurence MFL lessons are taught in KS2 during curriculum time by a specialist language teacher. The children have 45 minutes of dedicated language lessons.

In Reception and KS1 children study the world, cultures and languages through topic work.

The curriculum

The curriculum is based on the revised National Curriculum in England (2014) and is developed alongside Lingual Learn. The school policy and a scheme of work provide the foundation for the school's programme of modern foreign language teaching and learning.

The children are taught:

- to listen carefully and emulate new sounds
- to use accurate pronunciation and intonation
- how to ask and answer questions
- how to effectively memorise words
- to interpret meaning
- the importance of context
- to understand and apply basic grammatical concepts
- how to use a bilingual dictionary
- about life in other cultures

During MFL lessons children are given the opportunity to work as a class, as individuals and as part of a group. The choice of class organisation is determined by the learning task. By its nature MFL will involve lots of interaction with visual, auditory and kinesthetic prompts.

Assessment, recording and reporting

Most assessment is formative and is used to support teaching and learning and inform future planning. The MFL teacher will assess children based on their achievement of the learning objectives in lessons.

If any written MFL work is produced, it is marked in line with the school marking policy.

Monitoring

Monitoring is carried out by the headteacher or deputy head for teaching and learning in the following ways:

- Informal discussion with staff and pupils
- Planning scrutiny
- Book scrutiny
- Classroom observation

This policy was reviewed and updated in November 2018 by Lizzy Bennett – Deputy Head for Teaching and Learning

Reviewed by the Head Teacher and Learning and Achievement committee:

Next due for review: October 2021