

# St Andrew's CE Primary School



## Modern Foreign Languages Policy

Summer 2022  
Next Review: Summer 2023

## **St. Andrew's C.E Primary School**

*Every Child A Champion in Their Own Right. Matthew 5.16 - "Let Your Light Shine."*

### **Policy for Modern Foreign Languages**

#### **1. Why we teach Modern Foreign Languages:**

As the world becomes smaller, it becomes more important to be able to communicate with people of other cultures. At St Andrew's, we consider it essential to equip our children with the knowledge and skills to do this, both now and in preparation for their future. By the time children leave St Andrew's, it is anticipated that they will have the skills to communicate at a basic level in one Modern Foreign Language and be able to transfer these skills to other languages as they encounter them. Most importantly we aim to foster a love of languages in our children, ready for them to take it further at secondary school.

#### **2. Aims and purposes:**

The teaching of MFL encourages a positive attitude to learning an additional language, opening minds to other cultures and ways of life.

At Foundation stage 1&2 there are opportunities for the children to learn French and Spanish through songs and games, with the emphasis on speaking and listening.

At KS1 the children:

- Listen to the sounds of a modern foreign language, wherever possible through a native speaker;
- Become more aware of other cultures;
- Enjoy imitating sounds they hear, often through tradition stories, songs, play, games and interactive activities.

At KS2 the teaching of MFL offers opportunities for children to:

- Learn to listen out for key vocabulary;
  - Become increasingly familiar with the sounds of a modern foreign language;
  - Develop language and language-learning skills;
  - Begin to understand and communicate in a new language and respond to questions;
  - Increase their cultural awareness by learning about different countries and their people, and working with resources from those countries and communities;
  - Foster positive attitudes towards foreign language learning;
  - Use their knowledge with increasing confidence and competence to understand what they hear and to express themselves;
  - Learn the basics of grammar in their chosen language further helping with their understanding of English grammar and language structure;
  - Form a sound knowledge base for further language study at KS3 and beyond;
- Due to the nature of language learning children need the opportunity to revisit topics regularly as brain breaks during any lesson or during registration; Each lesson should reflect on previous vocabulary to consolidate and commit it to a longer term memory.

## **Deeper Learning**

We aim to ensure Deep Learning is gained through a broad and engaging curriculum which promotes challenge, critical thinking, problem solving opportunities, probing questions (which make children think deeply) and collaborative learning.

Progress is made when children know more and remember more. Our MFL curriculum clearly outlines what our children are expected to know, understand and retain over time. This can obviously relate to the development of a deeper understanding of the importance of Basic Skills/Non negotiables in all subjects as well as subject knowledge.

To support this aim, it is important that planning clearly includes key vocabulary, key questions, appropriate challenging activities/discussion to promote Deeper Learning. To help with this aim all must be aware of specific planning for each session at least 24 hours before in order for them to contribute to plans, amend and 'personalise' for any particular pupil or group.

Deep Learning should also manifest itself in regular homework tasks to raise parental awareness and encourage real challenge for all groups.

## **3. Progression:**

St. Andrew's pupils currently follow the Primary Language Network scheme of work written in accordance with the KS2 Framework for languages, a flexible framework which complements the school's own 'Rainbow' curriculum and cross curricular approach to teaching and learning. The units in the scheme are linked to other areas of the curriculum enabling language teaching to be taught on a more frequent basis ensuring a stable rate of progression through the year groups.

There are online resources including video clips of native speakers, stories in French and Spanish and ITB games, designed to support lesson plans. To ensure successful language learning and progression all units must be covered before moving on to new units. The teaching of MFL from Foundation Stage, whilst non-statutory, is positively encouraged and supported, with children at this key stage able to access regular MFL teaching.

Teaching will continue to be supplemented and extended by the provision of MFL clubs for Foundation Stage to KS2 children and their families where possible.

## **4. Inclusion**

It is recognised that a broad spread of ability may exist within each group or class. Children with special educational needs may often excel in MFL learning and teachers use their own professional judgment in selecting appropriate tasks to enable all children to take an active part in their learning. Planning will ensure Gifted and Talented children are extended as appropriate. The languages framework is designed to cater for pupils working at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. Links with secondary schools will enable further learning to take place if appropriate.

## **5. Every Child Matters**

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Every Child Matters Policy.

At St Andrew's we strive to ensure all children are able to:

- Be healthy
- Stay safe
- Achieve economic well being

- Make a positive contribution
- Enjoy and achieve

The teaching of MFL at St Andrew's incorporates these 5 key areas through the Primary Languages curriculum and staff ensure that all children are able to meet these expectations at all times.

## **6. Safeguarding**

St Andrew's CE Primary School's aim is to promote the safeguarding of children and young people and encourages the prevention of child abuse through the teaching of Modern Foreign Languages.

St Andrew's Primary School recognises that it has a duty to ensure arrangements are in place for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and we will carry out this duty through our teaching and learning, pastoral care and extra curricular activities.

## **7. Community Links**

The teaching of MFL has many local and global links, with languages being a vital key to unlocking the world. This is why it is important that not only the children, but their families are able to access language support through MFL extra-curricular activities available.

## **8. The future:**

MFL teaching at St Andrew's is in accordance with Government guidelines and provides all pupils in KS2 with their entitlement to learn a language in the primary phase. The 'Rainbow' and 'global' approaches to the delivery of the curriculum provide staff and pupils opportunities to explore language learning in an exciting and familiar way. As well opportunities to study French and Spanish, each year group takes part in a research project studying a country from around the world. Through the Countries Project the children use their enterprise skills to research a country and present their research in a whole school MFL assembly.

The development of MFL at St. Andrew's is continuously reviewed and further plans are in place to develop different and more accessible ways of teaching and learning which complement the school's aims and values. Our policy of continuous improvement will enable amendments to be made, particularly as new Government policies regarding the provision of MFL come into effect.

Currently all staff have access to online CPD MFL courses provided by the Primary Language Network. This is used to support the teaching of MFL by teachers who lack confidence and or experience in this area of the primary curriculum alongside regular MFL workshops held during staff training days.

## **9. Home School Learning:**

The Home Learning Policy supports the Teaching and Learning Policy. It is a positive enhancement to learning and should be seen as such by pupils, teachers and parents. In order to promote this: All Home Learning tasks are set on Insight so pupils can access the tasks easily and parents can monitor the completion of the tasks and support their children effectively. In the case of children not being present in school (such as during an epidemic resulting in school closures), the use of home learning through email and access to Google Classroom will be used to reduce gaps in learning and will focus on differentiated non-negotiable and basic skills tasks as well as other key areas and objectives essential to the curriculum. In the case of a pupil being unable to access technology to view and complete work arrangements will be made for paper

learning packs to be collected or posted to individuals. Marking and feedback must be completed as soon as possible.

## **10. Promoting and Supporting Mental Health and Wellbeing in MFL**

Supporting mental health strategies is prominent at St. Andrew's CE Primary School.

The teaching of MFL lessons across the school, aims to complement the objectives and strategies outlined in our PSHE and RSE curriculum. Promoting health and wellbeing in science will

consist of:

- Outdoor education and outdoor MFL lessons, including the use of the outdoor French games resources and French Yoga ( Lessons provided by the PLN).
  - Engaging MFL lessons, with high quality teaching, including practical activities to inspire our children.
  - Group and collaborative MFL work, to enable discussion and communication whilst learning.
  - Accurate differentiation of work in order to ensure challenge but also the opportunity for success at every level.
  - The use of pupil questionnaires and pupil voice suggestions so that pupils feel valued and a part of our MFL curriculum goals.
  - Classroom environment which portrays warmth, good relationships and an atmosphere of belonging.
  - Encouragement and praise; sharing examples of great work.
  - Projects which involve the whole family, including EAL parent coming in to 'teach' their child's class about their culture and first language.
  - Promoting the school's philosophy of 'Every child to be a champion in their own right'.
- In order to ensure staff's health and wellbeing, support and training for MFL is given to all staff by the Primary Language Network. The development of detailed medium term plans, as well as planning and sharing resources in teams, helps to reduce teachers' workload.