

Newdale Primary School and Nursery

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

Policy 2017



Adopted:

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March 2019

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MFL Policy

As the UK is becoming an increasingly multicultural society, we have a duty to provide our children with an understanding of other cultures and languages. The MFL provision at key stage 2 in Newdale Primary School is designed to reflect this and also takes into consideration the primary MFL entitlement as set out in the National Curriculum 2014. The key elements of MFL learning at Newdale are:

- Our language learning is inclusive and enjoyable for all.
- The main language we study is French.
- Children are exposed to different languages and cultures throughout Nursery and KSI.
- French is taught as a coherent programme from year 3 to year 6 by a specialist language teacher.
- The curriculum also encompasses learning about French life and culture.

The main areas this policy will cover are:

1. Rationale for teaching languages.
2. Aims and Objectives.
3. Current staffing and provision.
4. MFL curriculum planning for KS2.
5. Inclusion.
6. Assessment for learning.

1 Rationale for teaching languages

1.1 Language learning supports oracy and literacy

Children spend most of their time in language lessons speaking, listening and interacting with each other. This emphasis on communication, including language learning's important role in the 'education of the ear', underpins children's capabilities in oracy, which is critical to effective communication as well as a key foundation for literacy.

1.2 Language learning stimulates children's creativity

Children enjoy taking an active part in language lessons. They join in with singing, reciting rhymes and poems, and respond to stories. They play games, take turns and experiment creatively with language.

1.3 Language learning supports and celebrates the international dimension

Although it enjoys much more linguistic diversity than in the past, England remains a place where the motivation to learn another language is affected by the position of English as a widely spoken, world language. This makes it even more important that we give all children the chance to learn a language in order to gain insights into their own lives and those of others around the world. They need the chance to learn about people in other countries and cultures and to reflect upon their own cultural identities and those of other people. Learning French, and learning about the countries where it is spoken, are also intended to promote aspiration for travel and a broadening of life experience.

2 Aims and Objectives

Our aims and objectives in teaching MFL are for children to:

- Foster an interest in learning another language;
- Develop speaking and listening skills;
- Apply and develop their knowledge of languages and language learning;
- Gain enjoyment, pride and a sense of achievement;
- Explore their own cultural identity and those of others;
- Increase personal aspiration.

3 Current staffing and provision

3.1 Staffing

The school employs a specialist French teacher to teach French to each KS2 class for 1 hour per week.

3.2 EYFS and Key Stage 1

At Newdale we believe that early exposure to languages is key and so encourage the language learning process from Reception. Children in KS1 study basic French by watching a DVD called 'Serge the Cheeky Monkey'. The DVD is split into separate units, allowing children to learn vocabulary which is appropriate to their current topics and units in other subjects and so to use their language skills in a cross-curricular way. Each class teacher also has a list of common classroom phrases in French (provided by the specialist language teacher) which they are encouraged to use throughout the school day.

4 MFL curriculum planning for KS2

The planning developed for KS2 will target objectives taken from the National Curriculum 2014. By the academic year 2017-2018, each year group in KS2 will have its own programme of study, each building on learning from the previous year and each contributing to a secure development of the National Curriculum objectives. As, prior to the academic year 2014-2015, there was a lack of consistent language teaching throughout KS2, it was decided to deliver a year 3/4 level of study to year 3 and 4 during that year and a year 4/5 level of study to years 5 and 6. In 2015-2016, year 3 studied a year 3 curriculum and year 4 and 5 progressed to a year 4/5 curriculum while year 6 was taught a year 5/6 curriculum. In 2016-2017, year 3 and 4 will have their own curriculum and year 5 and 6 will both study a year 5/6 curriculum.

5 Inclusion

Each class in Newdale contains children from a wide range of abilities and we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for them all by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. This means that, where appropriate, written work will be differentiated according to ability. MFL is, however, a highly inclusive subject and although the principal aim of the teaching is to develop children's knowledge, skills and understanding, there is also an emphasis on

enjoyment. MFL is taught to all KS2 children, whatever their ability and individual needs. We strive hard to meet the needs of those pupils with special educational needs, those with disabilities, those with special gifts and talents and those learning English as an additional language (EAL) and we take all reasonable steps to achieve this.

6 Assessment for Learning

8.1 Assessment in MFL is carried out annually for each KS2 pupil by the specialist French teacher and communicated directly to the appropriate class teacher. The assessment rates a child according to their development within their year group and takes the form of ARE (at age-related expectation), ARE+ (above ARE) or >ARE (below ARE).

8.2 The specialist French teacher will keep samples of children's work in the MFL file . These demonstrate what the expected level of achievement is in MFL for each year of KS2.

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years.