

Wickford Primary School

Foreign Language Policy

Mission statement

At Wickford Primary School we believe that learning a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience which will lay the foundation for future language learning.

Aims and objectives

-To raise awareness of:

- aspects of home culture by encountering other cultures;
- the multilingual and multicultural world;
- the existence of languages other than English
- the need for language learning as a skill for life.

-To open children's minds to the excitement of other languages, lives and cultures.

-To develop:

- the ability to understand and respond;
- listening skills and phonological awareness;
- linguistic competence;
- language skills and language learning skills;
- positive attitudes to other languages and other cultures;
- curiosity and interest in other languages and cultures when opportunities arise.

Organisation

Language subject leader

The school has nominated a language subject leader who is responsible for:

- action planning;
- implementing scheme of work;
- long term planning;
- resourcing;
- liaising with/supporting staff;

Teaching Foreign Language

Our chosen language for KS2 is French, based on popularity of choice at KS3, due to sustainability, staff competency and opportunities for progression from KS2 to KS3. A whole school approach to language learning is desirable, so although languages is optional for the Foundation Stage and KS1, teachers are encouraged to start introducing languages from September 2018. Therefore, French will begin to be taught in Year 2 for the time being.

Foreign Language is taught regularly to ensure progression and skills development. Although Languages can be a cross-curricular subject, children are taught specific skills, concepts and vocabulary in dedicated French lessons. Children receive a 60 minute lesson from a class teacher/specialist language teacher during PPA time. Teachers are encouraged to reinforce language learning for at least 20 minutes throughout the school week as, due to PPA timetabling, children receive lessons twice every 3 weeks.

Curriculum

The KS2 scheme of work is based on the Languagenut scheme of work and adapted to school's curriculum map. Resources from our Computing online learning resource, Languagenut, will be used to ensure progression and in conjunction with the KS2 New National Curriculum for Languages which can be found online at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/239042/PRI_MARY_national_curriculum_-_Languages.pdf. The KS1 scheme of work is based on Petites Etoiles, using French rhymes and songs to introduce young children to language learning.

Teachers will use a variety of techniques to encourage the students to have an active engagement with MFL, including games, role-play and action songs. Teachers will try to make lessons as enjoyable as possible so that the students develop a positive attitude to the learning of MFL. Students confidence will be built through praise for any contribution they make, however tentative.

Tasks and activities are planned to be enjoyable and engaging for children. They will:

- have clear and achievable objectives;
- be carefully planned and structured;
- be practical, active and varied;
- involve the use of ICT
- include reference to our link school

Children are given opportunities to develop the four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing the language. Speaking and listening are given a greater emphasis, particularly in the first years of learning.

Inclusion

All children are included in language lessons. Many children with special educational needs benefit from the active approach and the focus on oral skills.

Assessment and recording

Children complete self-assessment records, based around 'I can' statements. The children are assessed against the end of unit expectations at the end of every unit. The children are

assessed at the end of every term using national descriptor levels. School reports include reference to children's learning in languages.

Transition to KS3

Links have been made with local secondary schools. French lessons are taught to prepare children for French at the secondary schools and aid transition. French planning is adapted to discussions with local secondary schools in order to ensure progression from KS2 to KS3.

Monitoring

The subject leader is responsible for the monitoring of language teaching. This takes place through informal discussions, scrutiny of planning, observations and pupil perception surveys.

Development plans

Action plans for language teaching are drawn up each year and are reflected in the School Development Plan. The professional development of individual members of staff will be supported as necessary.

Wider communities

Where possible, we encourage the involvement of the wider communities by:

- networking with other primary schools;
- contact with a partner school through e-mails, a blog, pen pals and sending work.
- Liaising with secondary schools to aid transition.

Evaluation/review

This policy is a practical working document for the teaching and learning of Languages throughout the school. It is therefore subject to regular review in the light of experience, monitoring and changes to national guidance.

This policy was updated in October 2018.