



Stebbing Primary School Modern Foreign Languages Policy

Created/updated October 2015
Ratified By Gov. Body March 2016
Due for review 2019

Every child should have the opportunity to study a foreign language and develop their interest in the culture of other nations. They should have access to high quality teaching and learning opportunities, making use of native speakers and e-learning.

Contribution of MFL to the Primary School Curriculum

The learning of a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for pupils. Pupils develop communication and literacy skills that lay the foundation for future language learning. They develop linguistic competence, extend their knowledge of how language works and explore differences and similarities between French and English. 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. The learning of a foreign language provides a medium for cross-curricular links and for reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other subjects.

At Stebbing Primary School, children are taught French from Reception to Year 6. For Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, lessons are once a week and last 30 minutes. This is supplemented wherever possible with short sessions within the routine class environment. Reception and Year 1 children are taught during a weekly 10/15 minute session.

We aim to give all pupils the opportunity to learn, enjoy and make progress in French, unless it is deemed more important to provide the child with reinforcement in other curriculum areas at the time of the lesson.

Aims

- To foster an interest in learning another language
- To maintain a lively pace during lessons so that pupils can enjoy learning French
- To encourage children to be aware that language has a structure, which may differ from one language to another
- To give children an awareness of the way of life in other Francophone countries, and of their traditions and cultures
- To develop the children's speaking and listening skills
- To foster positive attitudes towards speakers of languages other than one's own
- To lay the foundations for future study of a foreign language
- To exploit cultural links and experiences when opportunities arise

Objectives

The children are taught how to:

- Ask and answer questions
- Use correct pronunciation and grammar
- Memorise words
- Interpret meaning
- Understand basic grammar
- Use dictionaries

- Work together to communicate in French
- Look at life in another culture
- Read short texts
- Write words and sentences in French, progressing to paragraphs

Teaching Strategies

The overall focus for French is fun, involvement and enjoyment. The main emphasis initially is on the use of oracy, but as the children progress, literacy is introduced, to ensure that children develop their capability and fluency in all disciplines – speaking, writing, listening and reading. The language is taught through interactive software, songs, games, rhymes and books, often involving toys, flashcards and other visual aids. Sessions introduce a new focus on a regular basis, as well as revising and practising previously taught structures and vocabulary. We are guided by the *C'est Français!* scheme of work, which is supplemented by activities to prepare for the Asset Languages assessment scheme. Emphasis is placed on providing maximum encouragement and participation, so that the children feel motivated. A variety of materials and resources are used.

Cross-Curricular Links

English: development of speaking and listening skills

Maths: counting, calculations, time and date, money

Science: work on parts of the body, animals

Enrichment sessions: covering history, geography, customs, music, art

ICT: use of interactive computer programs

When possible, links with schools in France are sought and fostered. This allows children to exchange correspondence in French, either electronically or in paper form, and at the same time understand how children in France are also learning a different language.

Resources

The *C'est Français!* programme is used, and this forms the basis of the Scheme of Work for Years 3 – 6. This is a flexible, photocopiable scheme, with a CD, which allows French to be taught by both specialist and non-specialist teachers, as vocabulary can be introduced and modelled using recordings from native speakers on the CD, if necessary. This programme is supplemented by information from *Unforgettable French*, which is a publication used to help to explain grammar rules and syntax.

Espresso and the *2 Simple French* program are also used.

For Reception and Key Stage 1, CDs containing French songs and rhymes, and other materials, purchased from specialist suppliers, or made by the teacher, are utilised.

Recording and Assessment

Stebbing Primary School is a registered Asset Languages Centre. The teacher assesses the children's progress informally during lessons, and when deemed appropriate, formally

assesses in the disciplines of speaking, reading, writing and listening, using the Asset Languages French Breakthrough Level materials at Grade 1, 2 and 3. On satisfactory completion of a grade, the children receive a certificate of achievement which can be taken on to secondary school as evidence of their ability. In Key Stage 1, children generally find success at the Grade 1 level, and move on to Grades 2 and 3 in Key Stage 2.

Record Keeping

Asset Languages record sheets are maintained by the teacher and these can be used in conjunction with the Languages Ladder steps and grades, and the requirements of the National Curriculum.

Further information

Further information regarding other relevant policies will be available on our website or in the school office.

www.stebbingprimary.co.uk

Other relevant policies may include:
School discipline and Pupil Behaviour
E-safety
Early Years Foundation Stage
Handwriting
Inclusion and SEND
Teaching and Learning