

St. Luke's C of E (Aided) Primary School



2023-2024

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

1. Rationale and Ethos

Our vision at St. Luke's is *'Let your light shine, live life to the full, respect and care for all, create a happy and safe world for everyone'* and we encourage all of our children to shine in their own individual ways. We want them to show and grow their talents to be the best that they can be. We aim to teach them well and help them achieve the best that they can, offering a range of opportunities across the curriculum. We would like all pupils to learn to be kind, good people who know their God, as well as helping others. Staff encourage children to work well as part of a group and on their own, to listen carefully to others and be happy to share what they think. The skills taught and learnt as part of MFL will assist the children of St. Luke's with this vision.

As part of the Education Act 2002/Academies Act 2010 all schools must provide a balanced and broad-based curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, whilst also preparing pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

The learning of a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for the 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 the target language and English. At St. Luke's our focus language is French, however the children may learn other languages as part of a topic or curriculum day. 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. Pupils will begin to understand and appreciate different cultures, people and communities.

2. Roles and responsibilities

The Head teacher, **Mrs J. Dunn**, will ensure teachers:

- have good knowledge of the subject;
- present subject matter clearly, promoting appropriate discussion about the language or country being studied;
- check learners' understanding systematically, identify misconceptions accurately and provide clear, direct feedback
- respond and adapt their teaching as necessary;
- design their teaching to help learners to remember in the long term the content they have been taught and to integrate new knowledge into larger concepts;

- use assessment well in order to help learners embed and use knowledge fluently or to check understanding and inform teaching;
- create an environment that allows the learner to focus on learning

The Lead teacher, Miss S. Phillipson, will take responsibility for;

- leading the development of this policy throughout the school;
- working closely with the Head teacher, governors and SENCO;
- being accountable for standards in MFL;

The Lead teacher will also monitor standards by:

- auditing the subject area and creating relevant action plans
- reviewing the scheme of work to ensure it remains relevant
- monitoring teachers planning to ensure all are following the agreed long term plan
- lesson observations
- scrutinising children's work
- discussions with pupils

3. Aims and objectives

At St. Luke's we strive to develop children's enjoyment and interest in modern foreign languages. We aim to ensure that a full curriculum is planned and taught throughout school, whilst building on children's prior knowledge and capabilities. We believe that the early acquisition of French will facilitate the learning of other foreign languages later in life. We aim to prepare children for the KS3 language curriculum to enable them to transfer confidently and successfully.

4. Curriculum design

At St. Luke's we use a variety of the following techniques to encourage children to have an active engagement with French:

- Games – in order to develop vocabulary through repetition, reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.
- Role-play – these should relate to the situations the children may find themselves in in the future.
- Action songs and rhymes – to develop phonetic skills, memory skills and to further vocabulary.
- Reading and writing quality materials.
- ICT programs and websites; the use of Linguascope to develop communication skills.

We build children's confidence through praise for any contribution they make in the foreign language, however tentative.

5. The contribution of MFL to teaching in other curriculum areas

- English
 - The learning of a modern foreign language naturally contributes to the development of our children's listening and speaking skills. It also develops the children's grasp of linguistic features such as rhyme, rhythm, stress and intonation and emphasises the importance of knowing the role of different word types in sentence structure.
- Mathematics
 - Children reinforce their time-telling skills by playing time-related games in the foreign language. We play number games, too, that reinforce their counting and calculation skills, expand their understanding of date, and increase their knowledge about money.
- Personal, social and health education (PSHE) and citizenship

- One of the main benefits to the children of learning a modern foreign language at primary school level is a social one. Those children who have difficulty in reading and writing, but who have good aural skills, will often find that they excel at speaking in foreign languages. This develops confidence, which in turn increases self-esteem and gives them a more positive attitude to school in general.
- Spiritual, moral, social and cultural education
 - By teaching a modern foreign language, we contribute to the children's cultural education. They learn that many societies are multi-lingual. We teach them about festivals and customs related to the countries in which the language is spoken. We also give them the chance to hear stories set in the foreign culture

6. Inclusion

At St. Luke's we are committed to promoting equal opportunities irrespective of socioeconomic background, gender, disability and ethnicity in all areas of the curriculum. We believe all children should have access to and participation in the learning of languages and to be supported in this process. We teach modern foreign language to all children, whatever their ability. A modern foreign language forms part of the school's commitment to providing a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our modern foreign language teaching, we provide learning opportunities that enable all children to make progress. We do this by setting suitable learning challenges and responding to each child's different needs.

7. Monitoring, evaluation and review

At St. Luke's teachers regularly assess children and upload data onto our assessment system 'Depth of Learning'. Clear progress is demonstrated across the year groups using this system. The short-term assessments that teachers make as part of every lesson help them to adjust their lesson plans. They match these short-term assessments closely to the teaching objectives. Written or verbal feedback is given to help guide children's progress. Older children are encouraged to make judgments about how they can improve their own work.

8. Links with other policies

The PE policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies;

- Safeguarding
- Behaviour
- Anti-bullying
- SEND
- Inclusion
- Equality and Diversity
- Complaints Procedure

This policy is reviewed annually by the governing body who will monitor the application and outcomes of this policy to ensure it is working effectively.

Last Reviewed: October 2023

Next Review: September 2024