



Sheldwich Primary School

MFL Policy

Rationale

At Sheldwich Primary School we believe that the learning of an additional language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for pupils. It helps them to develop communication skills, including key skills of speaking and listening and extends their knowledge of how language works. Learning another language gives children an additional perspective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own cultures and those of others. At Sheldwich Primary School, we begin our formal MFL journey with French learning in Years 3-5 and then experience Spanish learning in Year 6 to promote a wider range of language learning in preparation for the transition to Secondary School.

Aims

- To listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding
- To explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words
- To engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help
- To speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures such as describing people, places things and actions orally and in writing
- To develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases
- To read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing
- To appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language

Objectives

- To understand basic grammar including (where relevant) feminine, masculine and plural forms; key features and patterns of the language; how to apply these, for instance, to build sentences; and how these differ from or are similar to English
- To develop an awareness of other countries and their people thus increasing an awareness of other cultures
- To develop a positive attitude towards the learning of foreign languages in general
- To strengthen pupil's sense of identity through learning about culture in a foreign country and comparing it to their own culture
- To develop pupils' experience of language acquisition, including enjoyment and interest in the language
- To extend pupil's knowledge of how language works and explore differences between French, Spanish and English

Activities

The four main skills of speaking, listening, writing and reading will be developed through a variety of age and skill appropriate activities including, but not limited to:

- Beginning each lesson with a recap of previous learning to consolidate and then allow for progression in the subsequent lesson
- Role playing conversations with peers with the opportunity to then show to the class
- Language demonstrations from the teacher and the provision of time to repeat and practise
- Singing songs and learning rhymes in the language being learnt
- Modelled writing which children can independently adapt and build upon
- Using actions, pictures and making links between native language and language that has already been acquired when learning new vocabulary
- Workshops and group work with native language speakers
- Interactive games that practise vocabulary and sentence structure

Monitoring and Assessment

Assessment will be ongoing through teachers marking written work (according to the Marking Policy) or giving feedback verbally and teacher assessment (according to the Assessment policy). The MFL co-ordinator will monitor the teacher assessment regularly.

Equal Opportunities

All children will be given an equal opportunity to maximise their individual potential; this is regardless of ability, gender, race, religion/beliefs, disability or talent. Activities both within and outside the classroom are planned in a way that encourages full and active participation by all children, matched to their knowledge, understanding and previous experience.

Reviewed by AM: September 2023

To be reviewed: September 2025

(unless there is any change in the curriculum, in which case the policy will be reviewed in line with changes)