



Inspire, Learn, Achieve

Modern Foreign Languages Policy

Person Responsible	Modern Foreign Languages Subject Leader
Date Adopted	Autumn Term 2017
Date of last review	Summer Term 2023
Date of next review	Summer Term 2026

Not only is learning a foreign language part of the primary National Curriculum for KS2 pupils, but it provides excitement, enjoyment and challenge for children and teachers, helping to create enthusiastic learners and to develop positive attitudes to language learning throughout life.

The Hermitage School has chosen to teach French as the Modern Foreign Language. The skills, knowledge and understanding gained can make a major contribution to the development of children's oracy and literacy and to their understanding of their own culture/s and those of others.

Aims

Our aim is to develop the confidence and competence of each child in French. Our goal is for them to be passionate, curious and confident about their own language learning abilities when they leave our school.

We will help them to develop and demonstrate progress in the five key language skills necessary for learning French:

- Speaking
- Listening
- Reading
- Writing
- Grammar

We aim to ensure that pupils of all abilities develop foundations in these key language learning skills, properly preparing them for the next stage of their language learning journey. These skills will develop children's ability to understand what they hear and read and enable them to express themselves in speech and writing. We will extend their knowledge of how language works and explore the similarities and differences between French and English.

Teaching and Learning Overview

The National Curriculum for languages aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources.
- Speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation.
- Can write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt.
- Discover and develop an appreciation of a range of authentic writing in the language studied.

Curriculum content at The Hermitage School:

To support this, our pupils are taught:

- to foster an interest in language learning by introducing children to other languages in a way that is enjoyable and accessible to all pupils;
- to stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language and creativity in experimenting with it;
- to support oracy and literacy and, in particular, develop speaking and listening skills;
- to help children develop their awareness of cultural similarities and differences;
- to lay the foundations for future language study by pupils;
- to provide an added perspective on first language teaching and learning;
- to give an extra dimension to teaching and learning across the curriculum;
- to make children aware that language has structure;
- to help children speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity.

This means that by the end of KS2, children should be able to listen attentively to spoken French and show understanding by joining in and responding. They should also be able to develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that they can be understood. Children should be able to engage in conversations, be able to ask and answer questions and express opinions.

French lessons

Our aim is that children take part in French lessons for 30 to 45 minutes per week across the key stage. Teachers currently use the *Language Angels* programme to help plan, teach and assess French lessons. Any gaps in children's language acquisition in French are addressed through appropriate recapping and revision of missed units.

With *Language Angels*, the units are split across the year groups to avoid repetition. Where appropriate, teachers give children opportunities to practise their foreign language in the context of lessons in other subject areas. For instance, some instructions may be given in French, or children may count in French while carrying out a numeracy activity. This acts to reinforce the vocabulary and structures they have learned. Some units, such as The Victorians or The Tudors, are also topic specific and can be taught alongside to enhance the overall teaching and learning experience. Pupils will be given opportunities to work individually, in groups and as a whole class.

Our scheme of work caters for the expected progress for each year group. It also seeks to enable each child to make progress in his/her own knowledge and understanding of French.

Health and Safety

The Hermitage School is committed to ensuring that all our pupils know how to communicate safely on the internet. Therefore, teachers should adhere to the Online Safety Policy when working online and if communicating with Francophone schools.

Monitoring and review

The monitoring of the standards of children's work and of the equality of teaching in French is the responsibility of the MFL subject leader. The work of the subject leader also involves supporting colleagues in their teaching, being informed about current developments in the subject and providing a strategic lead and direction for French in the school.