



Review Date	December 2024
Next Review	December 2025
Staff Responsibility	MFL Lead
Governor Responsibility	FGB
Chair's Signature	

Modern Foreign Language Handbook

Aims and Objectives

At Barton Primary School we teach Modern Foreign Language to all Key Stage 2 children as part of the school curriculum. We feel that it is important to engage pupils in MFL as early as possible. We begin to introduce MFL at Key Stage 1, teaching basic skills and vocabulary through songs and exciting activities. We believe that young children can enjoy learning to speak another language, and the earlier they are exposed to it the better as they tend to be less self-conscious about speaking aloud at this stage. It is widely believed that early learning of another language facilitates the learning of other languages later in life.

The main purpose of teaching a modern language in primary school is to promote the early development of a child's linguistic competence. We also aim to:

- foster an interest in and enjoyment of learning other languages
- develop awareness that language has a structure, and that the structure differs from one language to another
- help children develop their awareness of cultural differences in other countries
- develop their speaking and listening skills
- lay the foundation of future study

Teaching and Learning Style

At Barton Primary School teaching is based on the guidance material in the National Curriculum 2014 for Modern Foreign Language, adapted to the context of our school and needs and abilities of our children. A variety of visual, auditory and kinaesthetic techniques are used to encourage children to engage actively in the Modern Foreign Language including games, role-play, songs and I.T.

We make lessons as entertaining and enjoyable as possible to help develop a positive attitude towards the learning of Modern Foreign Language. Constant praise for any contribution is a must to help increase confidence.

Organisation

We aim for children in KS2 to receive at least 30 minutes of dedicated language teaching and learning per week as advised by National Curriculum 2014. Although not a curriculum requirement, our KS1 children will also receive some MFL teaching. Language songs, games and activities are highly enjoyable, motivating and inclusive and also develop other literacy skills.

The Curriculum

French is the modern foreign language that we teach in our school. We also teach words and phrases from other languages as they occur, for example phrases in Mandarin or Cantonese during Chinese New Year.

The curriculum that we follow is based on the National Curriculum 2014. This is organised into four attainment targets which are:

- AT 1: Listening and Comprehension
- AT 2: Speaking
- AT 3 Reading and Comprehension
- AT4: Writing

In the initial stages of teaching Modern Foreign Language we place more emphasis on the listening and speaking skills.

We teach children to know and understand how to:

- ask and answer questions
- use correct pronunciation and intonation
- memorise words
- interpret meaning
- understand basic grammar
- use dictionaries and word books
- work in pairs and groups to communicate in French
- look at life in a French-speaking culture.

How Modern Foreign Language contributes to other Curriculum Areas

ENGLISH

The teaching and learning of Modern Foreign Language contributes to the development of speaking and listening skills. It develops the children's grasp of linguistic features such as rhyme, rhythm, stress and intonation and their understanding of grammar.

MATHS

Counting games help to reinforce children's numeracy. Through the teaching of Modern Foreign Language, we also help develop their understanding of dates and their knowledge of money.

P.S.H.C.E

Many children with literacy difficulties find that they can excel in Modern Foreign Language as they have good auditory skills. Success breeds confidence and raises self-esteem, so there are many social benefits in the learning of Modern Foreign Language. Developing knowledge of other cultures can help to develop tolerance and global awareness.

R.E.

Children will have increased awareness of similarities and differences through learning about religious-based festivals, customs and celebrations in other countries.

GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY

Children learn where in the world French is spoken as a first language and learning about the different cultures helps develop global awareness. Teaching in French helps to develop knowledge about connections between Britain and France e.g. during World War II.

MUSIC

Children learn songs in French, both traditional and modern which helps them develop a sense of rhythm and an ear for melody.

SCIENCE

Children learn to name body parts in French.

P.E.

Counting in French or naming teams with French words in P.E. helps to reinforce their learning: many action songs such as 'head, shoulders, knees and toes' are enacted very energetically! The hall or outdoor environment may be used to play active games reinforcing vocabulary.

I.T

The school has programs to aid the presentation of vocabulary to the children, and games to help them practise their skills. I.T can be used to help research French speaking cultures and to make presentations to show their learning using word processing, visual or audio recording.

Inclusion

All children, regardless of ability, take part in French lessons. We set suitable learning challenges, and use of the National Curriculum Attainment Targets allows us to consider each child's attainment against expected levels. Children who are having difficulties will need more support, provided through differentiation of activity or through grouping. A Teaching Assistant will help children engage when needed.

Assessment for Learning

Assessments are carried out informally by the teacher and teaching assistant (if available) during lessons, when notes are made and kept on file. Carefully chosen outcomes based on the unit of work being taught will allow the pupils to demonstrate their skills and knowledge. Formal assessment is made against the knowledge and skills progression maps to track pupil progress. At the end of year 6 this provides information to be reported to the secondary school. Achievements and progress are also reported to parents in the children's end of year reports.

Resources

A full scheme of work for years 3 – 6 is available for teachers to follow. Related resources such as powerpoints, games, posters, songs, vocabulary lists are also available to be used. A range of French games and activities can be set by the class teacher using Purple Mash.

Monitoring and Review

The Modern Foreign Language subject lead will monitor the success of the French teaching programme and report to the Head Teacher at the end of each year. Adjustments will be made as necessary.