

MEREWORTH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES POLICY

"Lasting learning experiences for life"

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Modern Foreign Languages Policy

Intent

At Mereworth we believe that every child can succeed in learning a second language, which will enhance their ability to communicate with others and develop their understanding of different cultures. The study of a second language also supports children's literacy and oral skills, as well as promoting learning about the world around them.

Our chosen language at Key Stage 2 is **French**.

We teach French using the 'Language Angels' scheme. This scheme prides itself on enhancing children's life skills by opening additional opportunities to connect with others. By allowing another way to communicate, it promotes the possibility to make new friendships and values the importance of travel. Language Angels also encourages children to develop their self-confidence and self-esteem. All children are starting from the same place when learning a second language, and all children have the opportunity to feel successful.

This approach to language learning is based on critical thinking skills and creativity. Research has suggested that children who learn an additional language perform better overall in standardised tests than children who are monolingual. This has been particularly evident in maths, reading, and spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG). With businesses constantly expanding and looking to network across the world, having an additional language gives broader opportunities to connect.

Implementation

French lessons are taught for 30 minutes every week in Key Stage 2. MFL lessons are typically broken into four parts:

- 1. Review and revisit:** This part of the lesson is spent looking back at previous vocabulary from the unit or, where there is a new unit, recapping anything from previous year groups.
- 2. Teach:** During the main input of the lesson, children are often taught new vocabulary or new spelling and grammatical features.
- 3. Practise:** Children should then be using their new learning and practising. Language Angels uses many rhymes and songs to encourage the children to remember the new learning.
- 4. Apply:** Children are then asked to complete an activity in their book which applies the learning from the lesson. This is often a short task to fully embed the new learning.

French is also taught throughout the day at Mereworth, as we understand that the more we can use and apply the new language, the more likely the children are to remember it. French is therefore encouraged through: greeting people in French, answering the register, French calendars, French songs, and referring back to French vocabulary displayed in the classroom regularly.

Whole-class teaching is used, although pupils also work individually, in pairs, or in small groups. Learning objectives and success criteria are shared with the children. A French lesson may include games, songs, oral

work, role-play and simple sentence work. There is a high focus on the children being able to speak the language prior to being able to write it. Reading and written tasks are included with increasing frequency as the children advance through the key stage.

Impact

Children are encouraged to understand the relevance of what they are learning in languages and how it relates to everyday life and travel. Teachers should foster a love of language learning and show that they are passionate about the subject. Lessons should therefore be varied and interactive, sometimes including singing and taking the opportunity to explore outdoors where appropriate. This will encourage children to show enthusiasm when learning a second language.

Evidence of work carried out should be kept in children's French journal. This should be marked using Bloom's questioning twice in a term.

The subject leader will carry out pupil interviews to ensure that children are positive and excited to learn another language. It will also be important to monitor the standards of work in the books to ensure coverage and progression across the school. If teachers are unsure, this can be addressed on an individual basis and appropriate support or CPD will be given.

Assessment of French takes place at the end of each year, with children being assessed in the following areas:

- Listening and responding
- Speaking and listening
- Reading and responding
- Writing
- Intercultural skills

Children are assessed as working below or above the expectations. If children are not listed on the assessment sheet, they are working within the expected criteria.