



**St Leo's and Southmead Catholic
Primary School serving the
Community**

Modern Foreign Language Policy

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Our Mission Statement

"In our school together we want to celebrate God's gift of life by inspiring, enhancing and developing tomorrow's talent, today! We respect all; aiming to achieve and live our values. A place to allow everyone to flourish!"

Safeguarding statement

In the light of current legislation, we fully acknowledge our duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children. We recognise and uphold the statutory regarding Child Protection. Through our day to day contact with pupils and direct work with families, we have a crucial role to play in identifying indicators of possible abuse or neglect and referring them to the appropriate agency.

We acknowledge all children can be subject to abuse regardless of age, culture, race, social background, gender or ability. All children have a right to grow up safe from harm.

This policy sets out how St Leo's and Southmead governing body discharges its statutory responsibilities relating to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children who are pupils at the school. In line with Working Together to Safeguarding Children 2006, the definition of safeguarding for this policy is as follows:-

- Preventing children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care and
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

Undertaking that role so as to enable those children to have optimum life chances and enter adulthood successfully.

Child protection is a part of safeguarding and promoting welfare, which refers directly to activity that is undertaken to protect specific children who are suffering or are at risk of suffering significant harm.

PROMOTING BRITISH VALUES AT ST LEO'S AND SOUTHMEAD CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL SERVING THE COMMUNITY

At St Leo's and Southmead Primary School we aim to help, guide and prepare our children as future citizens. As our Mission Statement says, our school is "A place to allow humanity to flourish!" This statement permeates everything that we do in school and captures what British Values are about:-

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

We grasp every opportunity throughout the school day to teach, model and show by examples all of the above. We have provided further information on our school website. We are proud of our school and are proud of the British Values that we live and learn about.

Introduction

At St Leo's and Southmead Catholic Primary School Serving the Community we recognise that the personal development of pupils, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, plays a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve. We therefore aim to provide an education that provides pupils with opportunities to explore and develop their own values and beliefs, spiritual awareness, high standards of personal behaviour, a positive caring attitude towards other people, an understanding of their social and cultural traditions and an appreciation of the diversity and richness of other cultures.

Although it is only a national requirement for Key Stage Two pupils to be taught a foreign language, we ensure that all children from Nursery through to year 6 are exposed to French as part of the school curriculum. We do this for several reasons. Firstly we believe that many children enjoy learning to speak another language. Secondly, we also believe that the earlier a child is exposed to a foreign language, the faster the language in question is acquired. We also believe that it is a good idea to introduce a new language to children at primary school age, as they are less self-conscious about speaking aloud at this stage of their development. It is also widely believed that the early acquisition of a foreign language facilitates the learning of other foreign languages later in life. EYFS and Key Stage One children take part in a

variety of fun, interactive French sessions learning the basic greetings, colours and numbers from 1-10. The Key Stage Two children have weekly timetabled French lessons.

The aims of teaching a modern foreign language

At St Leo's and Southmead Primary school, Modern Foreign Language education aims to equip pupils to ask questions about, and understand the world in which they live and will work. It seeks to do this by enabling pupils:

- to develop their natural curiosity in the world around them and foster an interest in learning other languages;
- to introduce young children to another language in a way that is enjoyable and fun;
- to make young children aware that language has structure, and that the structure differs from one language to another;
- to help children develop their awareness of cultural differences in other countries;
- to develop their listening and speaking skills;
- to begin to develop written language skills in KS2;
- to lay the foundations for future study;
- to be able to apply knowledge when in real life situations e.g. holidays;
- to be able to communicate with children from other cultures.
- Also learning a foreign language can improve children's understanding of their own language and reinforce learning in other areas of the curriculum, as well as fostering an interest in other cultures.

To achieve these aims all pupils will study a broad and balanced languages curriculum, based on the theory and practice listening to and speaking French, reading and writing French in Key Stage Two.

The National Curriculum 2014 provides a basis for such study and should be seen as the entitlement for all pupils, with modification only being necessary for a small number of students.

The curriculum

The curriculum that we follow is based on guidance given in a revised National curriculum (2014). We teach the children to know and understand how to:

- listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and asking and answering questions;
- 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

- memorise words;
- interpret meaning;
- understand basic grammar;
- work in groups and pairs to communicate with others in another language;
- look at life in a different country and culture;

Strategies for the teaching of a Modern Foreign Language

At St Leo's and Southmead School, pupils will learn French through fun and practical activities wherever possible. We will teach French mainly through topic based work in Key Stage Two. Each topic will be based on conversational aspects of the language e.g. Likes and Dislikes, hobbies and pastimes, food, sport etc. Learning will also draw on the everyday experience of pupils and on the cultural and environmental applications of the language. French will be a relevant and enjoyable part of the curriculum for all pupils.

In the Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage One the children work on practical activities designed to help them to work towards a basic grasp of the language and knowledge of the colours, days of the week and conversational greetings.

In Key Stage Two the National Curriculum programmes of study are followed from Years Three through to Six and is supported by Rising Stars.

In Years Five and Six an external language specialist works with the children on a weekly basis.

We use a variety of techniques to encourage the children to have an active engagement in the modern foreign language: these include games, role-play and songs (particularly action songs). We emphasise the listening and speaking skills over the reading and writing, although in upper Key Stage Two the writing of the language begins to hold more importance. We also use a multi-sensory to teaching, i.e. we try to introduce a physical element into some of the games, as we believe that this helps reinforce the children's memory. We make the lessons as entertaining and enjoyable as possible, as we realise that this approach to teaching helps to develop a positive attitude in the children to the learning of modern foreign languages. We build children's confidence through constant praise for any contribution they make in the foreign language, however tentative.

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects

At St Leo's and Southmead School opportunities to promote, appreciate and develop pupils spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness and understanding will be sought. These opportunities will be clearly identified in planning and promoted in practice.

English, Mathematics and Computing

Opportunities exist within French (MFL) for the enhancement and development of key skills and concepts in English, Mathematics and Computing. These opportunities should be clearly identified in practice.

French (MFL) allows for the development of Mathematics in a number of ways:

- Collecting and interpreting data;
- Communicating and presenting scientific data in appropriate forms such as bar charts, pictograms, tally charts, tables and graphs;
- Estimating, checking and evaluating results.

French (MFL) allows for the development of English in particular in a number of ways:

- Communication in both speech and writing;
- Reading, listening and writing skills;
- Developing knowledge of the difference in language structures;
- Following and giving instructions in both speech and writing;

French (MFL) allows for the development of Computing in particular competence in a number of ways:

- Collecting data and information
- To use search engines effectively to research
- To evaluate and present data and information
- Modelling

In particular the teaching of French (MFL) will:

- Be delivered with adequate subject knowledge;
- Be challenging to pupils of all abilities;
- Be based on a variety of teaching and learning strategies;
- Be based upon practical work wherever possible;
- Start from pupil's existing knowledge and experience;
- Take account of pupil's previous study of French (MFL) (continuity);
- Move logically through the programmes of study to allow increasingly sophisticated ideas to be taught at appropriate levels (progression);
- Develop specific skills and knowledge by direct teaching. This will at times involve whole class teaching and there will be to provide opportunities for practice and consolidation through class work;
- Be well planned to include specific learning objectives for each lesson;
- Include appropriate assessments which will be used to inform future planning;

- Be well managed and well disciplined, paying due regard to the health and safety of all involved;
- Be based on firm commitment to deliver quality in the classroom and be monitored to ensure that this happens;
- Make good use of non-teaching support;
- Be adequately resourced.

Assessment, recording and reporting

(Please refer to St Leo's and Southmead Assessment policy)

Pupils will be regularly assessed against learning objectives to inform planning and to ensure appropriate teaching and learning opportunities.

Monitoring

The monitoring of teacher's planning and their assessment of pupil's work and progress is the responsibility of the French MFL co-ordinator. This will be carried out through classroom observations, scrutinizing pupils' work, assessment information and teacher's short term planning. There will be regular feedback to the Head Teacher.

Thank you for your co-operation

This policy was reviewed September 2018 and will be reviewed again September 2019