



**MEADFURLONG
PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

**Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)
Policy 2011**

Date: _____15th_____September 2011_____

Signature: _____

To be reviewed on: _____September 2015_____

1 Rationale for Teaching Languages at KS2

1.1 As the UK is becoming an increasingly multicultural society, we have a duty to provide our children with an understanding of other cultures and languages. We believe that language skills are important to the social and economic future of the country. Learning a language also helps children and young people understand the world in which they live and the different cultures of people around the world. At Meadfurlong we believe strongly in the benefit of this and have therefore implemented the teaching of French for all KS2 children (Y3 to Y6) as a whole school approach.

1.2 Learning a language enriches the curriculum, providing excitement, enjoyment and challenge for children and teachers, helping to create enthusiastic learners and to develop positive attitudes to language learning throughout life. The natural links between languages and other areas of the curriculum can enhance the overall teaching and learning experience. The skills, knowledge and understanding gained 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. Language also lies at the heart of ideas about individual identity and community, and learning another language can do a great deal to shape children's ideas in this critical area as well as giving them a new perspective on their own language.

1.3 **Language learning stimulates children's creativity**

Children enjoy taking an active part in language lessons. They join in with singing, reciting rhymes and poems, and respond to stories. They create mimes, sketches and role-play, imitating accurate intonation and pronunciation. They play games, take turns, make things, take the role of the teacher and experiment creatively with language.

1.4 **Language learning supports oracy and literacy**

Children spend much of their time in language lessons speaking, listening and interacting - more than in most other subjects. They take part in role-plays, conversations and question and answer work, sing songs and recite, perform to an audience and respond to a wide range of aural stimuli. This emphasis on communication, including language learning's important role in the 'education of the ear', underpins children's capabilities in oracy, which is critical to effective communication as well as a key foundation for literacy.

1.5 **Language learning leads to gains across the curriculum**

Children approach a broad range of learning activities in a new and challenging context; these relate to mother tongue literacy, to mathematics and other subject areas such as geography, music and citizenship. This can lead to deep learning and significant gains in their general understanding as they recycle and reinterpret existing knowledge. Through the conscious development of language learning they are also learning how to learn and developing their BLP skills. Our daily French parcels activities support teachers in providing cross-curricular link between French and a wider curriculum.

1.6 Language learning supports and celebrates the international dimension

Although it enjoys much more linguistic diversity than in the past, England remains a place where the motivation to learn another language is affected by the position of English as a widely spoken, world language. This makes it even more important that we give all children the chance to learn a language in order to gain insights into their own lives and those of others around the world. They need the chance to make contact with people in other countries and cultures and to reflect upon their own cultural identities and those of other people.

2 Our aims of teaching MFL are for children to:

- foster an interest in learning another language;
- become aware that language has a structure, and that this structure differs from one language to another;
- develop speaking and listening skills.
- gain enjoyment, pride and a sense of achievement;
- explore and apply strategies to improve their learning;
- explore their own cultural identities and those of others.

3 Teaching and learning styles and procedures

3.1 At Meadfurlong Primary School we will use a variety of teaching and learning styles in our MFL lessons. Our principal aim is to develop children's knowledge, skills, and understanding. Children will have the opportunity to support their work with a variety of resources. We will aim for a balance of whole class, group and independent learning. Wherever possible we encourage children to use and apply their learning in other areas of the curriculum; ICT, PE and Music, for example, are particularly appropriate for cross-curricular teaching.

3.2 Our chosen language for KS2 is French, based on popularity of choice at KS3 in our partner schools such as The Milton Keynes Academy, our staff knowledge and availability of quality resources.

- 3.3 The lessons are to be delivered by a French teaching assistant and the class teacher, with support from the MFL Subject Leader.
- 3.4 KS2 children are entitled to half an hour of MFL teaching a week which follows the LEA recommended Scheme of Work (Based on the QCA plans) and therefore ensure a set progression. Lessons will be delivered by the class teacher with the support of the French assistant. To promote French culture and language, a French Day will take place once a year and French songs will be sung in our weekly singing assemblies. Finally, Y5 and Y6 will have the opportunity to take part in a residential trip to France.
- 3.5 Recommended resources are available on the school network and in the Year 3 shared area cupboard. The school especially recommends the use of *Linguafun*.
- 3.6 Lesson Content:
The French lessons are to include:
- a. learning French vocabulary
 - b. asking and answering questions
 - c. using bilingual dictionaries
 - d. teaching of basic French grammar and spelling patterns
 - e. playing games and learning songs
 - f. using language that has been taught in role play situations
 - g. researching and learning about life in France
 - h. beginning to write phrases and sentences
- French will be included when possible in whole school occasions e.g. Christmas celebrations and Summer concerts.
 - French will be used in displays that relate to the children's learning.
 - Languages other than French may be used within individual classes and topics, but French will be the main, assessed language.
- 3.7 For more information on pedagogy including progression, differentiation, ICT and use of the target language, see:
http://www.primarylanguages.org.uk/teaching_learning.aspx
- 4 MFL curriculum planning
- 4.1 We will use the KS2 Languages Framework as the basis for implementing the requirements of the programme of study for MFL and the Meadfurlong MFL Scheme of Work. See:
http://www.primarylanguages.org.uk/teaching_and_learning/using_the_ks2_framework.aspx
- 4.2 We will carry out the curriculum planning in MFL in three phases (long-term, medium-term and short-term). The Meadfurlong MFL Scheme of

work is based on the KS2 Languages Framework and outlines what we teach in the long-term.

4.3 Our medium-term plans, which we will also be based on the Framework, give details of the main teaching objectives for each term. These plans define what we teach, and ensure an appropriate balance and distribution of work across each term. The subject leader is responsible for keeping and reviewing these plans.

4.4 KS2 class teachers and the French assistant complete a weekly (short-term) plan for the teaching of MFL in line with other curriculum Foundation Subjects. This lists the specific learning objectives and expected outcomes for each lesson, and gives details of how the lessons are to be taught. Copies of weekly plans are given to the subject leader.

5 The Foundation Stage and KS1

A whole school approach to MFL is desirable, so we will develop link with Penwith School to ensure the continuity in the teaching of French between Ks1 and Ks2.

6 MFL and Inclusion

In all classes children have a wide range of abilities and backgrounds, and we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. MFL is a highly inclusive subject allowing us to make all children feel part of a wider international community. At our school we will teach MFL to all KS2 children, whatever their ability and individual needs. MFL forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our MFL teaching we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make good progress. We strive hard to meet the needs of those pupils with special educational needs, those with disabilities, those with special gifts and talents, and those learning English as an additional language (EAL), and we take all reasonable steps to achieve this. For further details see separate S.E.N. policy. For more information on inclusion in MFL, see:

http://www.primarylanguages.org.uk/teaching_and_learning/inclusion.asp
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7 Links outside school

We enable all pupils to have access to the full range of activities involved in learning MFL. Where children are to participate in activities outside the classroom (a theatre trip or visit to an MFL department in a secondary school, for example) we carry out a risk assessment prior to

the activity, to ensure that the activity is safe and appropriate for all pupils.

8 Assessment for learning

8.1 Teachers assess children's work in MFL in three phases. The short-term assessments that teachers make as part of every lesson help them to adjust their daily plans. They match these short-term assessments closely to the teaching objectives. Written or verbal feedback is given to help guide children's progress. Children are encouraged to assess their own progress at the end of each lesson and to set their own targets.

8.2 Teachers use medium-term assessments to measure progress against the key objectives, and to help them plan for the next unit of work. In addition, at the end of each unit the children are completing a self-assessment sheet to encourage them to reflect on their learning and to inform the teacher.

8.3 Teachers make long-term assessments towards the end of the school year using a language Portfolio. With the help of these long-term assessments they are able to set targets for the next school year, and summarise the progress of each child before reporting it to the child's parents. The next teacher then uses these long-term assessments as the planning basis for the new school year.

8.4 Assessments are based on the Progression Statements and Learning Objectives from the Key Stage 2 Framework for languages . These are divided into 5 main areas, by Year Group:

- Oracy
- Literacy
- Intercultural understanding
- Language learning strategies
- Knowledge about language

8.5 The subject leader will keep samples of children's work in a portfolio. This demonstrates what the expected level of achievement is in MFL in each year of KS2.

8.6 Staff are keen to improve their subject knowledge and the subject leader takes an active role in disseminating best practice and making recommendations for staff development.

9 Resources

There is a range of resources to support the teaching of MFL across the School: an MFL Audit of Resources will be completed by December 2011 and will be made available on the school network under MFL. Lists of recommended websites for activities will also be stored there. Children have access to the Internet through their classroom computer and access to the Internet is also available in the ICT suite. There is a selection of additional materials stored in the Y3 shared area. Resources are reviewed and updated regularly.

10 Monitoring and review

10.1 Monitoring of the standards of children's work and the quality of teaching in MFL is the responsibility of the subject leader, supported by the headteacher. 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 MFL in the school. The leader may have specially-allocated regular management time in which to review samples of the children's work and to undertake lesson observations of MFL teaching across the school. The French Assistant and the French Co-ordinator meet regularly to review progress.

10.2 This policy will be reviewed at least every 2 years.