



The Whitchurch CE Federation

The Independent Me - Languages



“Learning another language is not only learning different words for the same things, but learning another way to think about things.” – Flora Lewis

Intent

We believe that learning a modern foreign provides children with skills that are essential for modern life. As well as giving children the opportunity to learn a second language and an increasingly important skill in our globalised society, it also helps to promote and develop cultural understanding and deepen their curiosity about the world around them. All KS2 children are provided with opportunities to explore French as a Modern Foreign Language through the skills of Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing, whilst meeting the requirements of the National Curriculum.

At The Whitchurch CE Federation, we use the Language Angels scheme of work and resources to ensure we offer a broad, vibrant and ambitious curriculum that will inspire and excite our children. We use a wide variety of topics and themes that relate to other areas of the curriculum, whilst building on what children have previously learnt.

Our language teaching provides the foundation for the study of further languages at Key Stage 3.

Implementation

At The Whitchurch CE Federation, all classes will have access to a high-quality foreign languages curriculum using the Language Angels scheme of work and resources. This will progressively develop pupil skills in foreign languages through regularly taught and creative well-planned weekly lessons in KS2.

Children will progressively acquire, use and apply a growing bank of vocabulary, language skills and grammatical knowledge organised around age-appropriate topics and themes - building blocks of language into more complex, fluent and authentic language. Cross-curricular topics allow French to become embedded in children's learning, continuously building their knowledge of and enthusiasm for the language they are learning. Our children learn through active participation in actions, rhymes, stories, song, grammar focus, video clips, sentence structure, dictionary work and may other creative ways to extend, embed and combine language skills.

Lessons offering appropriate levels of challenge are taught at all times to ensure children learn effectively. Language Angels is categorised by 'Teaching Types' to make it easier for teachers to choose units that will offer the appropriate level of challenge and stretch for the classes they are teaching.

Early Language units are entry level units and are most appropriate for Year 3 pupils or pupils with little or no previous foreign language learning. Intermediate units increase the level of challenge by increasing the amount and complexity (including foreign language grammar concepts) of the foreign language presented to pupils. Intermediate units are suitable for Year 4-5 pupils or pupils with embedded basic knowledge of the foreign language. Progressive and Creative Curriculum units are the most challenging units and are suitable for Year 6 pupils or pupils with a good understanding of the basics of the language they are learning. Grouping units into these Teaching Type categories ensures that the language taught is appropriate to the level of the class and introduced when the children are ready. Children will be taught how to listen and read longer pieces of text gradually in the foreign language and they will have ample opportunities to speak, listen to, read and write the language being taught with and without scaffolds, frames and varying levels of support.

Impact

As well as each subsequent lesson within a unit being progressive, the teaching type organisation of Language Angels units also directs, drives and guarantees progressive learning and challenge. Units increase in level of challenge, stretch and linguistic and grammatical complexity as pupils move from Early Learning units through Intermediate units and into the most challenging Progressive units.

Early Learning units will start at basic noun and article level and will teach pupils how to formulate short phrases. By the time pupils reach Progressive units they will be exposed to much longer text and will be encouraged to formulate their own, more personalised responses based on a much wider bank of vocabulary, linguistic structures and grammatical knowledge. They will be able to create longer pieces of spoken and written language and are encouraged to use a variety of conjunctions, adverbs, adjectives, opinions and justifications.

Pupils will continuously build on their previous knowledge as they progress in their foreign language learning journey through the primary phase. Previous language will be recycled, revised, recalled and consolidated whenever possible and appropriate.

Pupils are aware of their own learning goals and progression as each unit offers a pupil friendly self-assessment tool so that all pupils can review their own learning at the end of each unit.

Teachers assess pupil learning in the key language skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing) against the 12 DfE Languages Programme of Study for Key Stage 2 attainment targets.

Children are expected to make good or better than good progress in their foreign language learning and their individual progress is tracked and reported to pupils and parents / carers.

If pupils are not progressing in line with expectations, this will be identified in the End of Unit Skills Assessments provided in the Language Angels Tracking & Progression Tool. This will enable Madame Warrington to put in place an early intervention programme to address any areas that require attention in any of the language learning skills.