



CASTLEFIELD SCHOOL

MFL POLICY

Signed (HT): 

Date agreed: July 2019

Signed (Chair of GB): 

Review date: July 2022

1. Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of learning a Modern Foreign Language in primary school are to:

- foster an interest in learning other languages;
- introduce young children to another language in a way that is enjoyable and fun;
- stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language;
- encourage children to be aware that language has structure and that the structure differs from one language to another;
- help the children develop their awareness of cultural differences in other countries;
- develop their speaking and listening skills;
- lay the foundations for future study;

The children are taught how to:

- ask and answer questions;
- use correct pronunciation and grammar;
- memorise words;
- interpret meaning;
- understand basic grammar;
- work in pairs and groups to practise communication;
- look at life in another culture.

2. Teaching and learning style

Teachers use a variety of techniques to encourage the children to have an active engagement with the Modern Foreign Language, including games, role play and action songs. Teachers also use mime to present new vocabulary, as this serves to demonstrate the language without the need for translation.

Listening, responding and speaking skills are emphasised primarily, and then simple reading skills in lower KS2, then writing in upper KS2. A multi-sensory and kinaesthetic approach to teaching is used, i.e. a physical element is introduced into some of the games, rhymes and songs as this serves to reinforce memory. Teachers try to make lessons as enjoyable as possible so that the children develop a positive attitude to the learning of Modern Foreign Languages. Children's confidence is built through praise for any contribution they make, however tentative.

3. Planning

The curriculum is based on the DfES 2014 publication 'Languages programmes of study: key stage 2 and follows the 'PlanIt' lesson plans from Twinkl. These plans have been tailored to provide our children continuity and progression throughout Key Stage 2.

4. Teaching of the subject to children with special needs

Primary Language teaching at Castlefield School is fully inclusive. Language activities are planned in such a way as to encourage the full and active participation of all pupils. Work is differentiated as appropriate to the needs of the individual children.

5. The contribution of subject to other subjects

The learning of a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for the pupils. Pupils develop communication and literacy skills that lay the foundation for future language learning. They develop linguistic competence, extend their knowledge of how language works and explore differences and similarities between English and other languages. Learning another language raises awareness of the multilingual and multicultural world and introduces an international dimension to pupils' learning, giving them an insight into their own culture and those of others. The learning of a foreign language provides a medium for cross-curricular links and for reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other subjects.

6. Assessment and recording

At Castlefield School, teachers informally assess the children in MFL. Assessment is based on class observations of listening and speaking activities and any written evidence produced.

7. Resources

Twinkl – and other online resources

Flashcards

CDs of songs

Games

8. Monitoring and review

Monitoring of the standards of children's work and the quality of teaching in MFL is the responsibility of the MFL Co-ordinator. The work of the co-ordinator also involves supporting colleagues in their teaching, being informed about current developments in the subject.