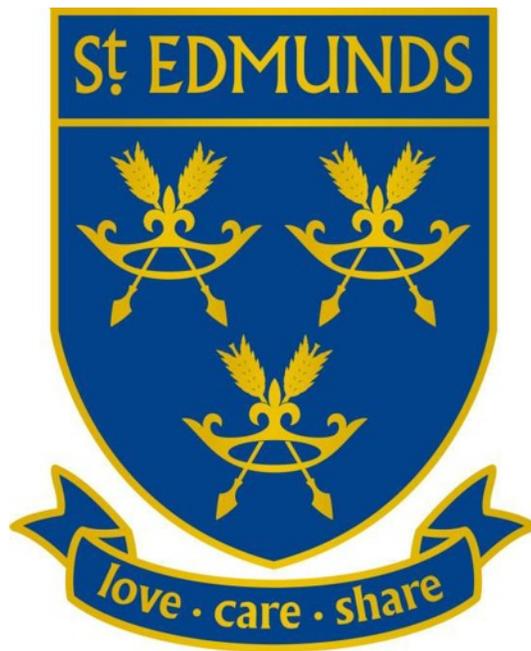


St Edmund's Catholic Primary School



Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Policy

September 2016

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Policy

Mission statement

To Love, To Care, To Share

St. Edmund's Catholic Primary is a community of faith where we aim to keep Christ at the centre of everything we do. We celebrate the uniqueness of every individual nurturing them to achieve their full potential. Our understanding and experience of the love of God grows through our way of living, behaving, learning and teaching, which is inspired by Jesus.

Introduction

At St. Edmund's Catholic Primary School we believe that learning a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our pupils. It helps them to develop communication skills including key skills of speaking and listening and extends their knowledge of how language works. Learning another language gives children a new perspective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own cultures and those of others. Learning a foreign language is an entitlement and part of the National Curriculum.

'Teaching may be of any modern or ancient foreign language and should focus on enabling pupils to make substantial progress in one language. The teaching should provide an appropriate balance of spoken and written language and should lay the foundations for further foreign language teaching at key stage 3. It should enable pupils to understand and communicate ideas, facts and feelings in speech and writing, focused on familiar and routine matters.'

*Languages programmes of study: key stage 2
National curriculum in England 2014*

The focus language taught in our school is French and we provide age-appropriate Primary Languages learning opportunities for all children in Years 3 to 6.

We aim to

- foster an interest in language learning by introducing children to another language in a way that is enjoyable and accessible to all pupils
- stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language and creativity in experimenting with it
- make children aware that language has structure, and that the structure differs from one language to another;
- develop speaking and listening skills
- help children develop their awareness of cultural similarities and differences;
- lay the foundations for future language study by pupils
- give an extra dimension to teaching and learning across the curriculum.

Organisation

French is taught once a week in KS2 by the class teacher in a whole class setting. The 'Language Angels' scheme of work provides a wealth of ideas to support teachers

The curriculum

The curriculum that we follow is based on the guidance given in the 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 responding
- explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words
- engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help
- speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures
- develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases
- present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences
- read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing
- appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language
- broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary
- write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly
- describe people, places, things and actions orally and in writing
- understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied, including (where relevant): feminine, masculine and neuter forms and the conjugation of high-frequency verbs; key features and patterns of the language; how to apply these, for instance, to build sentences; and how these differ from or are similar to English.

(National Curriculum Framework 2014)

Teaching and learning

- We use a variety of techniques to encourage the children to have an active participation in French: these include games, role-play and songs (particularly action songs).
- We emphasise listening and speaking skills in particular we also use a multi-sensory and kinaesthetic approach to teaching, (i.e. we try to introduce a physical element into some of the games, as we believe that this serves to reinforce linguistic memory).
- We make the lessons as entertaining and enjoyable as possible, as we realise that this approach serves to develop a positive attitude in the children.
- We build children's confidence through constant praise for any contribution they make in the foreign language, however tentative it may be.
- We celebrate an annual 'French Day' with our Year 3 children, where children become familiar with French Culture.
- We assess the children informally in lessons in order to ensure that they make good progress in this subject.
- We monitor teaching and learning in the same way as we do all the other subjects that we teach in the school in keeping with our school wide policy for Teaching and Learning.

MFL Leader

September 2016