



Modern Foreign Languages (French)

Intent

At Mendlesham Primary School, where the majority of children speak only one language, we believe that learning an additional language is full of rich opportunities. We have chosen French as our modern foreign language as France is our nearest neighbour and children moving on from Mendlesham Primary School to our catchment and partner high school – Stowupland - will continue their studies there. Our intent is for children to develop a practical knowledge of a modern foreign language, enabling them to express their thoughts and ideas in a different way. Learning a second language offers the chance to explore relationships between language and identity, develop a deeper understanding of another culture and improve overall attainment. It also serves to broaden horizons and develop values of inclusion and respect as well as a curiosity in the wider world. Our curriculum is taught on a rolling cycle, to ensure progression of skills and knowledge, as we often have mixed year groups. Adaptive teaching is employed.

Implementation

We are committed to implementing this vision following National Curriculum guidelines. French is taught in KS2, with a wide range of topics covered through the Kapow programme. Our aim is that by the time our children leave in Year 6, they will have mastered basic French conversation, and be fully prepared for their language learning at high school. To make sure our children have the best knowledge and skills, we ensure that they regularly hear native speakers through the programme with built in opportunities to revise and master content. Furthermore, children develop their understanding of the language through practical and challenging lessons, including the use of videos, songs and rhymes. Our MFL curriculum is designed to progressively develop children's skills in languages, through weekly lessons and regular revision. Children progressively acquire, use and apply a growing bank of vocabulary organised around topics. Children are encouraged and supported to develop their speaking and listening skills through conversational work, singing activities and games. As confidence and skill grows, children record their work through pictures, captions and sentences.

Impact

The impact of our language programme will be to not only create a sense of belonging to the wider world, but to also equip children with vital skills and prepare them for future opportunities in modern life. Our children are encouraged to understand the relevance of what they are learning in languages and how it relates to everyday life and travel. Also, how it could help them in another country, in commerce or to talk to a French speaker. Teachers foster an enjoyment of languages through a variety of lessons including interactive, singing and outdoor lessons. Progression through a topic should be evident in the development of key skills and acquisition of main vocabulary. Furthermore, as children move through KS2 they progress from largely speaking and listening – gaining vital vocabulary in single words or phrases to writing, reading and applying their learnt vocabulary and grammar skills in spoken and written sentences and pieces at increasing length and accuracy. The learning challenges used, to plan and teach MFL, ensure that children are accessing work at age related expectations, with regular opportunities to be challenged. Children are assessed according to age related expectations in line with curriculum requirements. This is done in line with the school assessment calendar. This information is recorded and monitored by the co-ordinator.

Full details of our curriculum can be found on our [website](#). Progression of knowledge and skills documents are available from the school.