

HOLY SOULS RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pride in our achievements



Modern Foreign Languages Policy

Vision Statement

Holy Souls School is a Catholic School where we share our life in Christ in the growing knowledge that Jesus loves us. Our school is a place where everyone is able to feel welcomed, valued, secure, loved and happy. Everyone who comes into our school will be treated with respect. We remember that Jesus said, 'Treat others as you would like them to treat you'

Date Agreed by Governors: 10th July 2025

Governor Review Date: Summer 2028



Holy Souls RC Primary School



Policy Statement for Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

This document is a statement which outlines the intent, principles and strategies for teaching and learning of Modern Foreign Languages (MFL).

Mission Statement

"To love one another as I have loved you" is at the heart of our Mission Statement. Holy Souls is a place where we share our life in Christ, in the growing knowledge that Jesus loves us. Our school is a place where everyone is able to feel welcomed, valued, secure, loved and happy. Everyone who comes into our school will be treated with respect and valued as a unique member of our school family.

Through our Mission Statement we encourage pride in achievements and by encouraging the learning of a Modern Foreign Language we are encouraging pupils to be proud of new skills, efforts and achievements. Our Modern Foreign Languages policy is used to help pupils develop their God given talents and with support from staff, to achieve their full potential.

Intent

At Holy Souls the intention of our curriculum is to develop an interest and a thirst for learning other languages. We aim to introduce the learning of the French language and the understanding of its culture in creative and inclusive ways through challenging and fun opportunities. We hope to embed the essential skills of effective communication through speaking and listening, reading and writing.

We aim to build the children's cultural capital so that they are aware of similarities and differences between cultures. In short, we hope to lay the foundations of future language learning.

Rationale for Teaching Languages at KS2

As the UK is a multicultural society, we believe that we have a duty to provide our children with an understanding of other cultures and languages. Therefore, at Holy Souls we have implemented the teaching of French for all KS2 children (Y3 to Y6) from September 2008.

Learning a language enriches the curriculum, provides excitement, enjoyment and challenges for both children and teachers, which helps 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.

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 on the role of the teacher and experiment creatively with language.

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.

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.

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.

Implementation

Teaching and Learning Styles and Procedures

At Holy Souls Roman Catholic Primary School, our MFL lessons are taught by an outside French teacher, we 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 aim to provide 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; Music, for example, is particularly appropriate for cross-curricular teaching.

Our chosen language for KS2 is French, based on popularity of choice at KS3, staff knowledge and availability of quality resources. The lessons are delivered by a specialist MFL teacher.

KS2 children are entitled to 40 minutes of MFL teaching a week which will follow the MFL curriculum and therefore a set progression. Lessons will be divided into half an hour of teaching and 10 minutes of review time per week. The review of the week's learning will be taught by the class teacher.

Lesson Content

The French lessons will include:

- Learning French vocabulary
- Asking and answering questions
- Using bilingual dictionaries
- Teaching of basic French grammar and spelling patterns
- Playing games and learning songs
- Using language that has been taught in role play situations
- Researching and learning about life in France

- Beginning to write phrases and sentences
- 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.

MFL Curriculum Planning

Our medium-term plans, which we will also base on the KS2 Languages 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.

MFL and Inclusion

In all classes children have a wide range of abilities, and we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We strive 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. MFL is a highly inclusive subject however and despite our principal aim of developing children's knowledge, skills, and understanding, the initial focus will be on enjoyment.

Equal Opportunities

All children are given equal opportunities and entitlement to access MFL. At Holy Souls we 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 will provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make good progress.

Assessment for Learning

Teachers use ongoing formative assessments to assess children's work in MFL. The short term assessments that teachers make as part of every lesson help them to adjust their weekly teaching. They match these short term assessments closely to the teaching objectives. Written or verbal feedback is given to help

guide children's progress. Older children are encouraged to make judgements about how they can improve their own work.

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

Staff are keen to improve their subject knowledge and will therefore take an active role in their weekly MFL lesson.

Resources

There is a range of resources to support the teaching of MFL across the school (see MFL Audit of Resources.) Lists of recommended websites for activities are also stored there. Each class has been given a French Box which contains resources for their year group units. Resources are reviewed and updated regularly.

Danielle Ellison
MFL temporary leader
May 2025