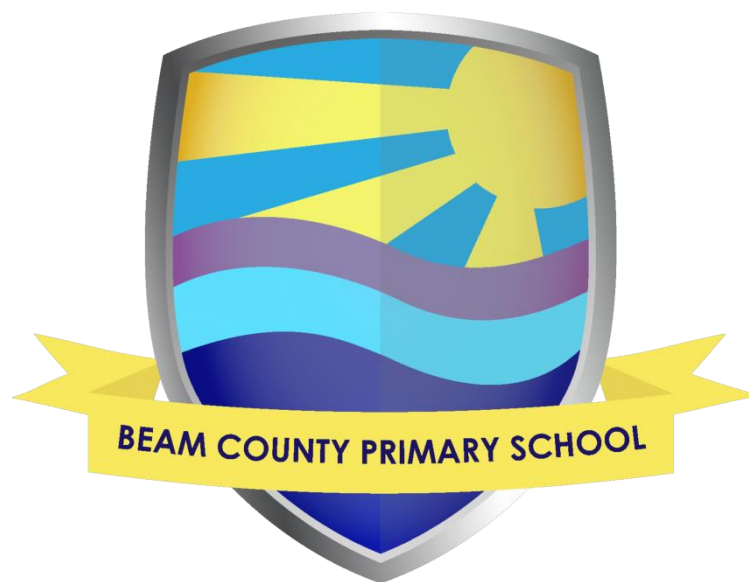


Modern Foreign Languages Policy

Beam County Primary School



Approved by: [Name]

Date: [Date]

Last reviewed on: [Date]

Next review due by: [Date]

Aims and objectives

In Beam County Primary School we recognise that learning a modern foreign language is a statutory entitlement for all pupils during their time in Key Stage 2 and we are committed to the principle that learning another language helps foster a curiosity and deeper understanding of other cultures and the world in general. We believe that learning to understand, speak, read and write another language during Key Stage 2 will provide the basis for learning other languages, which in turn will provide important opportunities for future study and work in other countries. In our school we teach French.

Our main objectives in the teaching of French are to promote the development of linguistic competence and confidence in speaking and writing as well as an understanding and awareness of the world and other cultures. To accomplish this, we will help the children to do the following:

- familiarise themselves with the sounds and written form of French;
- develop particular language-learning skills;
- begin to understand a new language and communicate in it;
- make comparisons between languages;
- learn about different countries and their people;
- develop a positive attitude towards the learning of foreign languages in general;
- use their knowledge of the foreign language with growing confidence, both to understand what they hear and read, and to express themselves in speech and writing;
- acquire, through all of the above, a sound basis for further study at Key Stage 3 and beyond.

Teaching and learning

We recognise that language learning in its broadest sense has three core strands:

- learning to communicate (with the emphasis on oracy, i.e. listening, speaking and interacting);
- learning about language (reading and writing in the foreign language and learning about the writing system, spelling and structure of the language);
- learning about and comparing different cultures (inter-cultural understanding).

We will encourage pupils to apply knowledge already learnt about their own language to their learning of the new language. We aim to equip pupils with strategies for language learning that they can use in the future when studying other foreign languages.

We use a variety of techniques to encourage children to engage actively in learning French: these include games, role-play, songs and rhymes (particularly action songs). We may use videos, sound recordings and songs to demonstrate the language and for the pupils to hear more than one voice speaking language. We frequently use mime to accompany new vocabulary in the foreign language, as this teaches the language without the need for translation.

We teach skills in all four strands of language – listening, speaking, reading and writing. We also use a multi-sensory and kinaesthetic approach to teaching to reinforce memory.

We aim to make lessons entertaining and enjoyable in order to develop a positive attitude to the learning of modern foreign languages. We build children's confidence through constant praise for any contribution that they make in the foreign language, however tentative.

We allow for differentiation by:

- using peer support;
- setting common tasks which are open-ended and can have a variety of responses;
- providing resources of different complexities, matched to the ability of the child.

Organisation

We teach French to Key Stage 2 children throughout the school. In addition, all class teachers are expected to take opportunities throughout the teaching day to embed the language by using it at incidental times such as taking the register, as well as playing simple games.

The curriculum

French is the modern foreign language that we teach in our school.

We teach the children to know and understand how to:

- ask and answer questions;
- use correct pronunciation and intonation;
- memorise words;
- interpret meaning;
- understand appropriate grammar;
- write at an appropriate level (words, phrases, sentences and paragraphs);
- use a dual language dictionary;
- look at life in another culture.

Modern foreign languages and inclusion

At our school, we teach French to all Key stage 2 children, whatever their ability. A modern foreign language forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our modern foreign language teaching, we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make progress. We do this by setting suitable learning challenges and responding to each child's different needs. 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, and we take all reasonable steps to achieve this. We enable pupils to have access to the full range of activities involved in learning a modern foreign language.

Assessment

We assess the children's progress by making informal judgements during lessons or through the work the pupils produce. Marking and verbal feedback provide guidance to help progress.

Monitoring and review

The coordination and planning of the MFL curriculum are the responsibility of the subject leader, who also supports colleagues in their teaching, by keeping informed about current developments in the subject and providing a strategic lead and direction for this subject.