

Christ Church (Church of England) Junior School



Modern Foreign Language Policy French

Reviewed February 2024

1 **Intent**

1.1 In our school we teach a foreign language to all children as part of the National Curriculum.

1.2 Firstly, we believe that many children really enjoy learning to speak another language. Secondly, we also believe that the earlier a child is exposed to a foreign language, the faster the language in question is acquired. We also believe that it is a good idea to introduce a new language to children when they are at primary school, as they tend to be less self-conscious about speaking aloud at this stage of their development. Learning a foreign language also provides an opening to other cultures and should foster pupils' curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. The teaching should enable pupils to express their ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and in writing. It should also provide opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes. Language teaching should provide the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries in their adult lives.

2 **Aims and objectives**

2.1 The national curriculum for languages aims to ensure that all pupils:

- understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources
- speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation
- can write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt
- discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied

3 **Implementation**

We teach French to children in all years for one hour per week.

4 **The curriculum**

The curriculum that we follow is based on the guidance given in the revised National Curriculum. 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

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- 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 Languages
- 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.

5 Teaching and learning style

5.1 We base the teaching on the guidance material in the Junior Jam scheme of work for modern foreign languages.

5.2 We use a variety of techniques to encourage the children to have an active engagement in the modern foreign language: these include games, role-play and songs (particularly action songs). We emphasise the listening and speaking skills over the reading and writing skills. 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 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 to the learning of modern foreign languages. We build children's confidence through constant praise for any contribution they make in the foreign language, however tentative.

5.3 The Junior Jam scheme of work is organised at four levels of difficulty intended for each year within KS2. All children at Christ Church are taught as follows:

Year 3 – Level 1

Year 4 – Level 2

Year 5 – Level 3

Year 6 – Level 4

Level 1 Syllabus

Unit 1 – Greetings and Numbers

Unit 2 – Colours and Animals

Unit 3 – Days of the Week, Seasons and Fruit

Unit 4 – Food, Drink and Giving Preferences

Unit 5 – Family, Stories and Conversation

Unit 6 – Cultural Diversity

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Level 2 Syllabus

- Unit 1 – Revising numbers and telling the time
- Unit 2 – Parts of the body and feeling unwell
- Unit 3 – New food and drink
- Unit 4 – Likes and dislikes
- Unit 5 – Weather and transport
- Unit 6 – Clothing and shops

Level 3 Syllabus

- Unit 1 – Verbs including tenses and questions
- Unit 2 – TV, music and movies
- Unit 3 – Around the house and at school
- Unit 4 – Food and eating out
- Unit 5 – Leisure and sport
- Unit 6 – Friendship and personalities – familiar conjugating verbs in the present tense

Level 4 Syllabus

- Unit 1 – Friends and family. Gender, adjectives and wider vocabulary
- Unit 2 – Descriptions, adjectives, placement prepositions
- Unit 3 – Familiar places. Conjugate the verb 'to go' in the present tense
- Unit 4 – Our World – culture of France and vocabulary about the environment
- Unit 5 – Special Occasions including French celebrations
- Unit 6 – Daily routines

6 Assessment

We assess the children to ensure that they make good progress in this subject. This is done informally during the lessons, through quizzes and games and through marking of work. Assessment is in three key areas:

- speaking and listening
- writing and understanding
- attitudes to learning and behaviour

7. Monitoring and review

We monitor teaching and learning in the same way as we do other foundation subjects that we teach in the school.

The subject leader monitors the teaching and learning taking place in French lessons by:

1. Monitoring lesson delivery,
2. Cross referencing content delivered to the agreed planning and scheme of work,
3. Monitoring the standard and content of pupil's work,
4. Ensuring work is meaningfully marked,
5. Referencing books to assessments stored on the Junior Jam portal,
6. Gathering and considering pupil's views.

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Impact

Our language curriculum is high quality, well thought out and is planned to demonstrate progression and build on and embed skills. It focuses on progression of knowledge and skills in the different language components. If children are keeping up with the curriculum, they are deemed to be making good progress or better.