

GREAT SANKEY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Primary Foreign Languages Policy

September 2021

Version	Date	Action
1	Dec 2016	Policy written and ratified by Gobs
2	July 2020	New policy in place
3	September 2021	Policy reviewed and updated



Together We Learn and Grow

Primary foreign Language policy

This policy document sets out the school's aims, principles and strategies for the delivery of language at school.

Intent

This policy document sets out the school's aims, principles and strategies for the delivery of language at school. At Great Sankey Primary, we believe that many children enjoy and thrive when learning to speak another language. There are many reasons which highlight the importance of learning languages in primary school. Firstly, studies show that teaching children another language early in life can significantly benefit their cognition. Secondly, we 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.

Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of learning a modern foreign language in primary school are:

- to foster an interest in learning other languages in a fun and enjoyable manner
- to stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language
- to help children to develop their awareness of cultural differences in other countries
- to develop their speaking and listening skills.

Implementation

At Great Sankey Primary, we have chosen to teach French to our Key stage 2 children. The curriculum we follow is based on the guidance given in the 2014 National Curriculum and we follow the online scheme of work provided by Language Angels. We follow the lesson plans as set out in the Language Angels scheme of work and also aim to teach occasional, short integrated activities throughout the week, where appropriate, to reinforce learning met in the lesson. The French curriculum is taught throughout KS2 and briefly introduced in KS1 through greetings etc.. 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 sometimes use puppets or soft toys to demonstrate language. We make the lessons as varied and as interactive as possible, as this approach serves to develop a positive attitude in the children to the learning of modern foreign languages. We build children's confidence through praise for contributions they make in the foreign language.

Through the delivery of the French 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
- 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 bare similarities to English.

Impact

We assess the impact of the French curriculum on the children in order to ensure that they make progress in this subject. This is done informally during the lessons in order to evaluate what the children have learned against National Curriculum expectations and the Language Angels scheme of work. Assessment is split into key areas:

- Listening
- Speaking
- Reading
- Writing

This information is used to inform next steps in future lessons; ensuring pupils are appropriately supported and challenged. Further information is gathered on the impact of the Primary Foreign Language curriculum through the PFL Coordinator and SLT carrying out pupil voice; work scrutiny; and lesson observations which highlight strengths and achievement and any improvements in knowledge and skills that still need to be embedded.

Review

The policy will be reviewed annually by the Subject Coordinator with the aim of meeting any new developments and initiatives both nationally and locally.