

Duddon Saint Peter's School



Modern Foreign Language Policy

The learning of a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our pupils. It helps them to develop communication skills including key skills of speaking and listening and extends their knowledge of how language works. Learning another language gives children a new perspective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own cultures and those of others. The focus language taught is French beginning in Year Three, through to Year Six. Some introductory vocabulary is also used in Years One and Two.

1. Aims and objectives of Primary Languages education

The aims of Primary Languages education at Duddon St. Peter's School are to:

- foster an interest in language learning by introducing children to other languages in a way that is enjoyable and accessible to all pupils
- stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language and creativity in experimenting with it
- support oracy and literacy and in particular develop speaking and listening skills
- help children develop their awareness of cultural similarities and differences
- lay the foundations for future language study
- provide an added perspective on first language teaching and learning
- give an extra dimension to teaching and learning across the curriculum.

2. Knowledge, skills and understanding

Speaking and listening (Oracy)

The children will learn to:

- listen carefully and recognise sounds and combinations of sounds which are similar to or different from those of English
- understand and respond with increasing competence, accuracy and confidence in a range of situations
- join in songs, rhymes, raps and stories which enable them to practise the sounds of the language in an enjoyable way
- take part in conversations at an appropriate level, reacting to instructions and questions and expressing feelings and opinions

Reading and writing (Literacy)

The children will learn to:

- read stories and rhymes for enjoyment and to gain awareness of the structure of the written language
- read, copy and write independently familiar words and simple phrases in context eg classroom items, display labels, dates
- write sentences independently and from memory

Intercultural understanding

The children will learn to:

- describe the life of children in the countries where the language is spoken
- identify similarities and differences in everyday life, social conventions, traditional stories and celebrations
- recognise how symbols, products and objects can represent the culture of a country, and how aspects of the culture of different countries become incorporated in the daily life of others
- recognise and mistrust stereotypes and understand and respect cultural diversity

3. Teaching and learning

Language learning takes place mainly within specific language lessons. Opportunities to embed language learning into other lessons are taken where appropriate and the teaching of language is planned to link with other areas of the curriculum as far as possible.

Primary Languages teaching at Duddon St. Peter's is fully inclusive. No child is excluded by reason of a learning difficulty or because they have English as an additional language. Experience has shown that such children can derive particular benefit from taking part in Primary Languages learning activities in which they may be less disadvantaged than in other areas of the curriculum.

Language learning activities are planned in such a way as to encourage the full and active participation of all pupils. Work is differentiated as appropriate to the needs of individual children. Pairs and groups for collaborative work may be made up in different ways, according to the task.

4. Curriculum Management

The subject leader will facilitate the use of Primary Languages in the following ways:

- by updating the policy and scheme of work
- by ordering and updating resources
- by providing INSET so that all staff are confident in how to teach the subject and have sufficient subject knowledge
- to keep staff abreast of new developments
- by attending appropriate courses to update knowledge of current developments

- by contributing to the SSDP on an annual basis
- by monitoring the curriculum

Links with other areas of the curriculum

Duddon St. Peter's believes in an innovative, cross-curricular, theme based approach to teaching and learning and Primary Language learning reflects this approach by taking every opportunity to make links with other subjects. These opportunities can be exploited through aspects of

English – development of speaking and listening skills, knowledge and understanding of grammar and sentence construction. Opportunities to compare the foreign language with English can be exploited through the use of alphabet activities, phonemes, rhyming patterns, sound/spelling links, dictionary work.

ICT – use of e-mail with schools abroad, materials from the internet, presentation of data and word processing.

Citizenship – the multilingual society, knowledge of other countries and cultures.

Maths – counting, calculations, time and date, money

Geography – the study of other countries, points of the compass, weather

Science – work on healthy eating, parts of the body, animals

Music – rhyming, rhythm, singing, world music.

RE – international or multicultural work, celebration of festivals, calendars, customs.

Signed:

Governor responsible

Signed:

Head teacher

Date: *October 2015*

Date of review *Autumn 2016*