



Malvern Wells CE Primary School

Languages Policy

'Loving, Learning, Serving.'

'For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works.'

Ephesians 2:10

Review date: March 2020

Next review date: March 2022

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Introduction

As the UK is becoming an increasingly multicultural society, we have a duty to provide our children with an understanding of other cultures and languages. The languages provision at Malvern Wells CE Primary School is designed to reflect this and also takes into consideration the primary languages entitlement as set out in the National Curriculum. We believe that 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 speaking, listening, reading and writing helping to extend their knowledge of how language works; skills that they will be able access in the future. It enables children to appreciate the beauty of another culture and broaden their horizons, giving a new perspective on the world in which we live. Learning French, and learning about the countries where it is spoken, is also intended to promote aspiration for travel and a broadening of life experience. The acquisition of life -long language learning skills can be transferred to other languages that may be encountered later in life; however, our chosen language in school is French. This also provides links with our secondary feeder schools, hopefully allowing the children continuity of their language learning. Increased capability in the use of MFL promotes initiative, confidence and independent learning and encourages diversity within society.

The key elements of Languages Learning at Malvern Wells;

- The main language we study is French.
- Children are exposed to different languages and cultures in EYFS.
- French is taught as a coherent programme from Year 3 to Year 6.
- The curriculum also encompasses learning about French life and culture.

Inclusion

In line with our Equal Opportunities and Inclusion Policies and our Disability Equality Scheme we are committed to providing a teaching environment conducive to children reaching their full potential. Each child is valued, respected and challenged regardless of race, gender, religion, social background, culture or disability.

Aims and Objectives

Our aims and objectives in teaching languages are for children to:

- Foster an interest in learning another language;
- Help children develop their awareness of cultural similarities and differences; lay the foundations for future language study by pupils;
- Develop speaking and listening skills;
- Apply and develop their knowledge of languages and language
- Gain enjoyment, pride and a sense of achievement;
- Explore their own cultural identity and those of others;
- Increase personal aspiration.

This is in line with the aims of the National Curriculum.

The national curriculum for languages aims to ensure that all pupils in KS2:

- 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.

Languages are not compulsory at KS1, however, at Malvern Wells, we feel that introducing languages early can help children with their cognitive development and encourage a culture of life-long language learners in our pupils. Children in Year 1 will be introduced to songs, games and activities which are highly enjoyable, motivating and inclusive and also help to develop other literacy skills. This whole school approach to MFL is desirable; French will be integrated within the curriculum across KS1 and KS2 wherever possible, for example, in displays, basic classroom language, whole school celebrations etc.

Curriculum and School Organisation

French is taught in KS2 classes on a weekly basis to ensure progression and skills development; KS1 children enjoy shorter regular exposure to our target language, incorporating songs/games. Malvern Wells currently follows a scheme of work which is in keeping with the National Curriculum requirements. This ensures that particular language learning strategies are taught and appropriate skills are practised. The planning outlines which topics are covered in each year group. By the end of KS2, we aim to have taught the children to know and understand how to:

- ask and answer basic questions;
- use correct pronunciation and intonation – understand the use of accents on words;
- memorise vocabulary;
- interpret meaning;
- understand basic grammar and tenses;
- make links between languages or previous knowledge; - work in pairs and groups, and communicate in the other language;
- explore life and traditions in another culture;
- be able to read and write basic sentences
- Computing is used where appropriate to enhance teaching and learning.

Monitoring progress and assessing attainment

Opportunities to monitor and assess the children's progress in languages is at present, formative and is used to support teaching and learning and inform future planning. Assessments are based on the observation of children working on different oral activities and (where appropriate) written or pictorial work. There is an aim to carry out a form of summative assessment.