



St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Where every child is special

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Policy

Policy compiled by:

MFL Leader

Date of last review:

Spring 2018

Review Date:

Spring 2021

The
CHILD



The whole
CHILD

Nothing but
the **CHILD**

OUR SHARED VISION

Every child at St Thomas of Canterbury is special and will achieve their full potential academically, socially, spiritually and emotionally through the provision of a loving community and rich and varied learning opportunities and the highest quality teaching and learning.

Every staff member at St Thomas of Canterbury will feel valued and enabled to provide the opportunities that we want for our children and to do so as part of a loving community which has the highest expectations of and for all.

Every Governor at St Thomas of Canterbury will feel valued and enabled to act as a critical friend to the School and to be accountable for the School's strategy. They will play a visible role supporting all children, their parents and staff at School and in the wider community, to provide the best environment possible for learning and spiritual growth.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

God's love is at the heart of our Catholic School family.

We show this in our respect, kindness and love for others and by treating other people as we wish to be treated ourselves.

We will encourage everyone to be the best that we can be.

OUR AIMS

- *To guide our children to grow in the love of God and build relationships that will enable them to make a positive contribution to the School and society.*
- *To develop an exciting, challenging and creative curriculum that produces confident and successful learners who are the best that they can be.*
- *To develop high quality learning that enables every child to flourish, to discover their talents and be lifelong learners.*
- *To establish a teaching and learning environment that encourages everyone to enjoy, to achieve, to be inclusive, to be healthy, and to stay safe.*



- To nurture a strong partnership between home and School.
- To have respect and understanding for our School, our community and our world, helping our children to become responsible citizens and good role models.

OUR GOLDEN RULE

We treat others as we would like to be treated

Introduction

This document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for the teaching and learning of MFL at St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School.

Aims

- To enable each child to develop an interest in learning other languages.
- To foster pupils' curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world.
- To enable each child to be able to express their ideas and thoughts confidently in another language.
- To provide opportunities for the children to communicate for practical purposes.
- To enable each child to understand and respond to speakers of another language, both in speech and in writing.
- To enable the children to write for different purposes and audiences in another language.

Organisation

It is statutory in the National Primary Curriculum that every pupil in KS2 learns a foreign language and that pupils should make 'substantial progress in one language'. In St Thomas' the children are introduced to French in the Foundation Stage (Reception) and taught French in formal lessons throughout Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) and Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6).

It is generally agreed that children learning languages should progress from listening to speaking to reading to writing, in that order. FS class teachers 'drip feed' small amounts of French through games, songs, finger rhymes, cooking, stories, role play etc., in order to introduce the children to French.

Each class in Key Stage 1 and in Key Stage 2 has a weekly timetabled lesson of French (at least 30 minutes long) with their MFL teacher, followed up with consolidation whenever possible across the curriculum areas. MFL topics are part of the 'Big Picture', shared with children at the beginning of each term. Class teachers support the teaching of MFL by providing additional language practice each week with their class. Experiencing language every day helps children to memorise new words and structures, giving children the confidence to respond to what they hear and to use the new language for real purposes. Examples include:

- Doing the register or lunch menu/choices in French
- Doing the sign of the cross or a prayer in French
- Watching a video in French
- Playing language games
- Cooking
- Reading stories in French
- Singing Happy Birthday in French
- Labelling classroom objects in French

A multi-sensory and kinaesthetic approach to teaching is used as well as an emphasis on the use of games, rhymes and songs including ICT. Teachers try to make lessons as enjoyable as possible so that the children develop a positive attitude to the learning of Modern Foreign Languages. Children's confidence is built through praise for any contribution they make, however tentative.



Each unit in our Scheme of Work contains key grammar and vocabulary, aims to reinforce other areas of the curriculum, and gives opportunities to reflect on similarities and differences between people/countries where French is spoken.

Content:

Pupils are taught to:

- Listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding
- Appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes
- Speak in sentences
- Present information orally to a range of audiences
- Develop accurate pronunciation and intonation
- Describe people, places, things and actions orally and in writing
- Write phrases from memory
- Write at length
- Conjugate common verbs
- Understand basic grammar, including feminine, masculine and neuter forms
- Read carefully
- Use a foreign language dictionary

Assessment:

Assessment in MFL is consistent with the school assessment policy. Assessment for Learning (AfL) and Key Skills are embedded and are an integral part of any lesson. The children are encouraged to self and peer assess regularly, and taught to correct and improve their writing.

Equal Opportunities

Every child, beginning French at St. Thomas of Canterbury School will be given the opportunity to benefit from the introduction of a language at a basic level.

This policy of St Thomas of Canterbury School upholds the school's ethos and Mission Statement. It must be read in conjunction with and implemented in accordance to the school's policies for Health & Safety Equal Opportunities, Inclusion and Safeguarding. Copies of these policies are available from the school website.