

Curriculum Policy for Modern Foreign Languages

DATE OF REVIEW: Autumn 2026

DATE OF NEXT REVIEW: Autumn 2028

TO BE REVIEWED BY: Teaching & Learning
Committee



Introduction

All pupils are entitled to a broad and balanced curriculum regardless of race, gender, religion or ability.

French is a Foundation Subject in the National Curriculum.

This policy outlines the Intent, Implementation and Impact of the French taught in our school. The Implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all teaching staff. French is considered to be a key driver subject, meaning that this is a specialist area of the curriculum. Through our teaching, we aim to develop pupils' growing knowledge and understanding of the world and their place within it which aligns directly with the Department for Education: "Learning a foreign language is a liberation from insularity and provides an opening to other cultures. A high quality language education 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, learn new ways of thinking and read great literature in the original language. Language teaching should provide the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries." (Department for Education)

The school policy for Modern Foreign Languages - French, reflects the consensus of opinion of the whole teaching staff and has the full agreement of the Governing Body.

Intent

Our Modern Foreign Languages Progression document is taken from the National Curriculum and has been added to where necessary to meet the unique interests and needs of our pupils. As the National Curriculum prescribes, these statements span Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. For each year group there is a National Curriculum progression overview which includes: Skills and Knowledge: this expands the skills identified in the National Curriculum's programme of study in order to identify expectations for each year group and to support

teaching and learning. It identifies what pupils should cover in terms of listening, speaking, reading and writing as well as phonology and grammar.

Language learning is much more than the acquisition of effective pronunciation and grammatical accuracy – the importance of language learning alongside developing cultural awareness is not overlooked at Hatherleigh Community Primary School; geographical location, customs, food and current affairs are highlighted and incorporated into lessons in a meaningful and engaging manner.

Our curriculum intent for Modern Foreign Languages is simple: language learning at Hatherleigh Primary School opens up a window into another world and crucially helps to develop the resilience and self-confidence essential for pupils and young people to thrive in today's society.

Implementation

French is taught weekly in Y3-Y6 by an experienced HLTA in discrete 40 minute lessons, following the Twinkl scheme for French. The scheme is split into 6 units for each year group: Year 3- Getting to know you, All about me, Food glorious food, Family and friends, Our School and Time.

Year 4- All around town, On the move, Going shopping, Where in the world? What's the time? And Holidays and Hobbies.

Year 5- Pleased to meet you, All about ourselves, That's tasty, Family and friends, School life and Time travelling.

Year 6- Let's visit a French town, Let's go shopping, This is France!, All in a day, Our precious planet and More to explore.

Lesson planning in French takes account of prior knowledge and skill development, building further upon existing skills in readiness for the next stage in the learning journey, ultimately preparing year 6 pupils with the positive attitude, confidence, and understanding to move their language learning forward in secondary education.

Extended Curriculum Opportunities

As a school we have chosen French as our main language but we will briefly cover other languages when opportunities arise.

Impact

Language learning requires use of our school values; resilience, respect and aspiration specifically. Our pupils display these attributes in their willingness to speak in front of others in a language different to their own – their willingness to 'have a go' without fear of failure is clearly evident. Throughout their learning in this area, our pupils demonstrate a positive

attitude, respect for each other and eagerness to develop their understanding of the world around them.