



# Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Policy 2020

Policy confirmed by the Governing Body of Welford-on-Avon Primary School on:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chair of Governors)

To be reviewed on: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 Rationale for Teaching Languages at KS2
  - 1.1 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. Since the year 2010 all KS2 children are to learn a language other than English. At Welford School, we believe strongly in the benefit of this and have therefore implemented the teaching of French for all KS2 children (Y3 to Y6). Foundation Stage and KS1 children (Y1 and Y2) will receive language teaching as an optional subject, although we encourage and support a whole school approach.
  - 1.2 Learning a language enriches the curriculum, providing excitement, enjoyment and challenge for children and teachers, helping to create enthusiastic learners and to develop positive attitudes to language learning throughout life. The natural links between languages and other areas of the curriculum can enhance the overall teaching and learning experience. The skills, knowledge and understanding gained make a major contribution to the development of children's oracy and literacy and to their understanding of their own culture/s and those of others. Language also lies at the heart of ideas about individual identity and community and learning another language can do a great deal to shape children's ideas in this critical area as well as giving them a new perspective on their own language.
  - 1.3 **Language learning stimulates children's creativity** Children enjoy taking an active part in language lessons. They join in with singing, reciting rhymes and poems, and respond to stories. They create mimes, sketches and role-play, imitating accurate intonation and pronunciation. They play games, take turns, make things, take the role of the teacher and experiment creatively with language.
  - 1.4 **Language learning supports oracy and literacy** Children spend much of their time in language lessons speaking, listening and interacting - more than in most other subjects. They take part in role-plays, conversations and question and answer work, sing songs and recite, perform to an audience and respond to a wide range of aural stimuli. This emphasis on communication, including language learning's important role in the 'education of the ear', underpins children's capabilities in oracy, which is critical to effective communication as well as a key foundation for literacy.
  - 1.5 **Language learning leads to gains across the curriculum** Children approach a broad range of learning activities in a new and challenging context; these relate to mother tongue literacy, to mathematics and other subject areas such as geography, music and citizenship. This can lead to deep learning and significant gains in their general understanding as they recycle and

reinterpret existing knowledge. Through the conscious development of language learning they are also learning how to learn.

**1.6 Language learning supports and celebrates the international dimension**

Although it enjoys much more linguistic diversity than in the past, England remains a place where the motivation to learn another language is affected by the position of English as a widely spoken, world language. This makes it even more important that we give all children the chance to learn a language in order to gain insights into their own lives and those of others around the world. They need the chance to make contact with people in other countries and cultures and to reflect upon their own cultural identities and those of other people.

**2 Our aims of teaching MFL are for children to:**

- foster an interest in learning another language;
- become aware that language has a structure, and that this structure differs from one language to another;
- develop speaking and listening skills.
- gain enjoyment, pride and a sense of achievement;
- explore and apply strategies to improve their learning;
- explore their own cultural identities and those of others.

**3 Teaching and learning styles and procedures**

3.1 At Welford-on-Avon Primary School we will use a variety of teaching and learning styles in our MFL lessons. Our principal aim is to develop children's knowledge, skills, and understanding. Children will have the opportunity to support their work with a variety of resources. We will aim for a balance of whole class, group and independent learning. Wherever possible we encourage children to use and apply their learning in other areas of the curriculum; ICT, PE and Music, for example, are particularly appropriate for cross-curricular teaching.

3.2 Our chosen language for KS2 is French, based on staff knowledge and availability of quality resources.

3.3 The lessons are to be delivered by the native French teacher with support from the MFL Subject Leader.

3.4 KS2 children are entitled to 1/2 hour of MFL teaching a week.

**3.6 Lesson Content:**

The French lessons are to include:

- a. learning French vocabulary
  - b. asking and answering questions
  - c. teaching of basic French grammar and spelling patterns
  - d. playing games and learning songs
  - e. using language that has been taught in role play situations
  - f. researching and learning about life in French spoken country
  - g. beginning to write phrases and sentences
- French could be included in whole school occasions e.g. Christmas celebrations.
  - French will be used in displays that relate to the children's learning.
  - Languages other than French may be used within individual classes and topics, but French will be the main, assessed language.

#### 4 MFL curriculum planning

4.1 We will use the KS2 Languages Framework as the basis for implementing the requirements of the programme of study for MFL and Welford school MFL Scheme of Work.

4.2 We will carry out the curriculum planning in MFL in three phases (long-term, medium-term and short-term). The Welford's MFL Scheme of work is based on the KS2 Languages Framework and outlines what we teach in the long-term.

4.3 Our medium-term plans, which we will also base on the Framework, give details of the main teaching objectives for each term. These plans define what we teach and ensure an appropriate balance and distribution of work across each term. The subject leader is responsible for keeping and reviewing these plans.

4.4 The KS2 French teacher complete a weekly (short-term) plan for the teaching of MFL in line with other curriculum Foundation Subjects. This lists the specific learning objectives and expected outcomes for each lesson and gives details of how the lessons are to be taught.

#### 5 The Foundation Stage and KS1

A whole school approach to MFL is desirable, so although languages will be optional for the Foundation Stage and KS1 at Welford's for the time being, teachers are greatly encouraged to start introducing MFL in their planning. Our Infant children may receive MFL teaching as a cross-curricular subject, enhancing both the EYFS and the KS1 National Curriculum. Infants may take part in any activities - and in any languages - at this stage. Language songs, games and activities are highly enjoyable, motivating and inclusive and also develop other literacy skills.

## 6 MFL and Inclusion

In all classes children have a wide range of abilities, and we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. MFL is a highly inclusive subject, however, and despite our principal aim of developing children's knowledge, skills, and understanding, the initial focus will be on enjoyment. At our school we will teach MFL to all KS2 children, whatever their ability and individual needs. MFL forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our MFL teaching we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make good progress. We strive hard to meet the needs of those pupils with special educational needs, those with disabilities, those with special gifts and talents, and those learning English as an additional language (EAL), and we take all reasonable steps to achieve this. For further details see separate S.E.N. policy.

## 8 Assessment for learning

- 8.1 The teacher assess children's work in MFL in three phases. The short-term assessments that teachers make as part of every lesson help them to adjust their daily plans. They match these short-term assessments closely to the teaching objectives. Written or verbal feedback is given to help guide children's progress.
- 8.2 Teachers use medium-term assessments to measure progress against the key objectives, and to help them plan for the next unit of work.
- 8.3 Teachers make long-term assessments towards the end of the school year. With the help of these long-term assessments they are able to set targets for the next school year, and to summarise the progress of each child before reporting it to child's parents.
- 8.4 Assessments are based on the Progression Statements and Learning Objectives from the Key Stage 2 Framework for languages . These are divided into three main areas, by Year Group: Oracy, Literacy and Intercultural Understanding.

## 10 Monitoring and review

10.1 Monitoring of the standards of children's work and the quality of teaching in MFL is the responsibility of subject leader, supported by the headteacher and colleagues from the LA. The work of the subject leader also involves informing colleagues being about current developments in the subject, and providing a strategic lead and direction for MFL in the school. The named governor responsible for MFL meets regularly with the subject leader in order to review progress.

10.2 This policy will be reviewed at least every 4 years.