



Tonacliffe Languages Policy - French

Introduction

At Tonacliffe, we believe that the learning of a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for pupils. Pupils develop communication and literacy skills that lay the foundation for future language learning. They develop linguistic competence, extend their knowledge of how language works and explore differences and similarities between the foreign language and English. Learning another language raises awareness of the multi-lingual and multi-cultural world and introduces an international dimension to pupils' learning, giving them an insight into their own culture and those of others. The learning of a foreign language provides a medium for cross-curricular links and for reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other subjects. We believe in giving all pupils, irrespective of gender identity, sexual orientation, race, religion, disability, socioeconomic status or academic ability, access to high quality language learning as this extends children's communication skills, enhances self-esteem and prepares children to be global citizens now and in their future roles within a global community.

Statement of Intent

Our aim at Tonacliffe is to give the children skills to communicate in another language in a variety of practical situations, to enable them to express ideas and thoughts and to be able to respond simply to its speakers, both in speech and writing.

We want to inspire pupils to develop a love of languages and to expand their horizons to other countries, cultures and people.

We will:

- Introduce children to another language in a way which is enjoyable and fun
- Foster an interest in learning other languages
- Provide enjoyment, satisfaction and intellectual stimulation at appropriate levels
- Stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language
- Increase confidence and MFL ability in preparation for transition to KS3 and KS4

- Develop positive attitudes to speakers of foreign languages and an unprejudiced approach and understanding of other cultures and civilisations
- Develop awareness of language structures in French and the realisation that these can be similar to or different from English
- Progress speaking, listening, reading and writing skills as well as an understanding of grammar
- Lay the foundations for future study

Implementation

The main focus of MFL teaching at Tonacliffe is French. All pupils begin learning French in Year 3 and sessions are delivered by a specialist to aid pronunciation and engage interest. Each class receives 45 minutes teaching time per week and class teachers or teaching assistants remain with the class during the French lessons.

Lessons are delivered in line with the recommendation of skills required by the National Curriculum's KS2 Languages Programme of Study. A 2-year rolling scheme of work has been written focusing on the three pillars of language learning; vocabulary, grammar and phonics. Opportunities to read French books and learn traditional rhymes and songs have also been included. Each topic will last one term giving children the opportunity to revisit vocabulary and grammar and apply it to new situations. The sequence of lessons is carefully planned to ensure the progression of skills.

In Lower KS2, children acquire basic skills and understanding of French with a strong emphasis placed on developing their Speaking and Listening skills. These are embedded and further developed in Upper KS2, alongside Reading and Writing, gradually progressing onto more complex language concepts and greater learner autonomy.

French language learning is taught through a range of different activities such as rhymes, stories, games, role play and video clips or games played using the interactive whiteboard.

Pupils will learn how to:

- Ask and answer questions
- Use correct pronunciation and grammar
- Memorise words

- Interpret meaning
- Understand basic language and grammar
- Write using the target language
- Communicate using the target language in pair and groups
- Examine life in another culture

Impact

Through high quality French teaching, we will see the impact of the subject in the following ways:

- Children will demonstrate a positive attitude towards other languages and language learning
- Children will be able to communicate with each other in French
- Children will become aware that a language has a structure, and that the structure differs from one language to another.
- Children will develop their language through development of the four key skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing.
- Children will enrich their language learning by developing an understanding of the French culture.
- Children will learn how language skills can be applied to a range of languages.

Inclusion Strategy

All pupils in KS2 with a special educational need are given the opportunity to experience the study of a foreign language. This is achieved by providing differentiated tasks or with adult support.

Assessment

The specialist teacher carries out formative assessments on an on-going basis as well as regular summative assessments at the end of each topic unit. Assessment is based on the Cave Languages descriptors “Suggested Key Attainment Targets for KS2 Year Groups”. These are used to inform the completion of the termly data analysis and report to Governors.

Helen Mills 2025

