

St. Clare's Catholic
Primary School
Modern Foreign
Language Policy



Members of staff responsible: Mrs Brennan
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1. MISSION STATEMENT

St Clare's is a Christ-centred family where everyone is valued and respected. We learn and grow, whilst strengthening our relationship with God and one another. Together in His love, we can achieve our full potential.

Play, learn and grow together with Christ

2. AIMS

- To develop pupils' communication and literacy skills that lay the foundation for future language learning.
- To develop linguistic competence, extend their knowledge of how language works and explore differences and similarities between the target language (French) and English.
- To enhance pupils' awareness of the multilingual and multicultural world and introduce an international dimension to pupils' learning, giving them an insight into their own culture and those of others.
- To provide a medium for cross-curricular links and the reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other subjects.

Objectives

The aims and objectives of learning a Modern Foreign Language at this primary level are to:

- foster an interest in learning other languages
- introduce young children to another language in a way that is enjoyable and fun
- stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language
- encourage children to be aware that language has structure and that the structure differs from one language to another
- help the children to develop their awareness of cultural differences in other countries
- develop their speaking and listening skills
- lay the foundations for future study
- extend language teaching beyond mother tongue learning

Approach

We believe in a communicative approach in which all Key Stage Two pupils can actively engage in meaningful tasks. French will be exploited to the maximum. All children in Key Stage 2 will be presented with a variety of opportunities and learning experiences to enhance their listening, speaking, reading, writing and grammar in French. The children are taught how to:

- ask and answer questions with confidence, on a range of topics
- memorise key vocabulary, phrases and sentences in each unit and use these in context
- use correct pronunciation
- appreciate songs, poems and stories in French
- interpret the meaning of simple written texts and verbal communications
- understand basic grammar
- write in French, with increasing stamina and accuracy, throughout Key Stage 2.
- work in pairs and groups and communicate in French
- look at life in another culture

Tasks and activities will:

- have clear, achievable objectives
- be carefully planned and structured
- be practical, active and varied
- involve the use of ICT where appropriate
- include whole class, small group and pair work
- promote success and self esteem

Teaching and learning style

French is taught in Key Stage Two in accordance with the 2014 Primary National Curriculum in England. The teaching in each Key Stage Two year group centres upon clearly defined Key Skills in the Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing and Grammar of French. These Key Skills support progression across the Key Stage and ensure a balanced curriculum. The interactive scheme used in St Clare's is 'La Jolie Ronde'. This comprehensive scheme aids teaching and learning through a wide range of relevant topics and includes songs, poems and stories. Lower Key Stage Two (Years 3 and 4) also use 'Rigolo 1' to further enhance teaching and learning in French. 'Rigolo 1' is a highly interactive, fun and engaging scheme for the interactive whiteboard.

'Little Languages' is part of the 'Jolie Ronde' scheme and this is available for Key Stage One (Years 1 and 2) and Foundation Stage teachers.

Assessment

Teachers assess children's progress against specific Key Skills in Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing and Grammar for each Key Stage Two year group. This is often carried out informally during lessons but at times, teachers may make assessments using a more structured, formal approach.

Children's level of attainment and effort in learning French is recorded at the end of each year throughout Key Stage Two. This is reported to parents in written form at the end of each academic year.

Conclusion

We very much hope, through working in partnership with our Cluster schools and secondary colleagues, St Clare's pupils will benefit from their early start in learning a Modern Foreign Language. It is hoped children will develop a love for language learning and a desire to embrace and celebrate cultural diversity. We aim to provide firm foundations for future learning in French and a sound basis for the future acquisition of other Modern Foreign Languages.