



Discovery Primary Academy

Modern Foreign Languages Policy

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to describe our practice in Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) and the principles upon which this is based.

Aims:

The national curriculum for languages aims to ensure that all pupils:

- understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources
- speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation
- can write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt
- discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied

Equal Opportunities:

Discovery Primary Academy is committed to providing a teaching environment conducive to learning. Each child is valued, respected and challenged regardless of ability, race, gender, religion, social background, culture or disability. Discovery Primary Academy actively promotes British Values and supports the Prevent duty throughout its teaching and learning, inclusive of this policy.

Consultation:

This policy was written by Laura Matthews, Phase Leader, in consultation with:

- Teaching staff
- Parents - via the school website
- Governors - Local governing committee meeting

Sources and references:

- National Curriculum statutory guidance
- Non-statutory programme of study for MFL (The Oak Academy)
- The Prevent duty - Department for Education

Planning:

Discovery Primary Academy uses The Oak Academy scheme of work for our MFL planning, which addresses all of the recommendations from the 2014 National Curriculum. We adapt this to suit our aims for Equal Opportunities, ensuring that all children have access to the MFL curriculum.

Our curriculum planning allows the teaching of a Modern Foreign Language in year 6 during the summer term. A three-phase model; long-term, medium term and short term planning is in place. Long term plans are provided by our MFL curriculum overview, which ensures coverage of all areas of the MFL curriculum within the year 6 summer term. The Oak Academy scheme of work is used for medium term planning, upon which teachers base their weekly, short-term plans. Weekly plans provide detailed information for each lesson, including learning objectives and success criteria, to ensure progression of skills and language competency. Plans are tailored and differentiated to suit the needs of all learners, including those with Special Educational Needs and those who are identified as Gifted and Talented. These plans are reviewed by the subject leader on a regular basis, as well as in discussion with class teachers.

Teaching:

The teaching of MFL at Discovery Primary Academy encompasses each of the aims of the 2014 National Curriculum for MFL , wherein pupils should be taught to:

- listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding
- explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words
- engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help*
- speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures
- develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases*
- present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences*
- read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing
- appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language
- broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary
- write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly
- describe people, places, things and actions orally* and in writing
- understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied, including (where relevant): feminine, masculine and neuter forms and the conjugation of high-frequency verbs; key features and patterns of the language; how to apply these, for instance, to build sentences; and how these differ from or are similar to English.

The teaching of MFL also provides many cross-curricular links and promotes key learning skills to enhance learning across the curriculum. The skills practised within MFL lessons support the teaching of English, through development of reading, writing, speaking and

listening. Pupils also develop their basic maths skills through counting and telling the time in a foreign language. Identifying locations and comparing the culture and heritage of other countries compliments the Geography and History curriculum, whilst learning grammatical frameworks and vocabulary through song and rhyme provides links with Music. The use of ICT is an integral part of the MFL curriculum, particularly through the use of The Oak Academy which approaches learning through interactive stories, games and resources presented on the interactive whiteboard.

MFL teaching also develops pupils' social skills, encouraging children to communicate ideas and learning in new ways and promoting the values of respect and understanding of other cultures, which is a core value of our school and the PSHE curriculum. This developing appreciation of a diverse global community also builds greater awareness of our Global Learning aims and objectives.

Organisation:

MFL is taught in year 6 in the Summer term. All children in year 6 have access to the MFL curriculum, equating to no less than 30 minutes each week, or, where necessary, lessons may be blocked and taught as theme afternoons or days in each half term.

Homework /parent partnership:

Although formal homework is not usually set for Modern Foreign Language lessons, pupils are encouraged to practise the skills and vocabulary taught in their own time. It is the hope and aim of teaching that pupils will enjoy their language learning and will independently pursue their knowledge of MFL. Parents are encouraged to participate in their child's learning and support is offered to parents to enable this practice.

Resources:

A central store of MFL resources is provided for the teaching of MFL and this is maintained by the subject leader. All year groups are equipped with bilingual dictionaries and have access to the Oak Academy scheme of work to support learning. The store also provides a large collection of target language stories and books, many of which are translations of familiar books and texts. The resource store is periodically refreshed to suit the changing needs of pupils' learning.

Assessment:

Teachers maintain records of pupil progress for speaking, listening, reading and writing, using informal observations and questioning to inform assessment. Pupils complete written work in dedicated French books, which follow the children through school and will be accompanied by a vocabulary book, allowing children to build a bank of vocabulary across the range of topics taught.

Monitoring and evaluation:

The year 6 team will monitor the MFL program taught. The team will make any adjustments to the program as the term progresses.

Other documents and appendices:

The MFL policy should be read in conjunction with the 2014 National Curriculum and our policies for:

- British Values
- SEN policy
- Equal opportunities

Governor approval and review dates:

This policy was approved by the full governing body in March 2016.

Reviewed Autumn 2020

Reviewed Spring 2024

Next review Spring 2027