



Modern Foreign Languages

Intent, Implementation, Impact

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart” Colossians 3:23

Intent

‘A high-quality languages 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.’ (National Curriculum 2014 – Appendix A)

At Huby, we aim to develop the pupil’s confidence in languages and develop a positive attitude to language learning. The skills, knowledge and understanding gained contribute to the development of children’s oracy and literacy and to their understanding of their own culture and those of others.

We feel that the earlier a child is exposed to a foreign language, the faster the language in question is acquired. We believe that the early acquisition of languages will facilitate the learning of other foreign languages later in life. We aim to prepare children for the KS3 French language curriculum to enable them to transfer confidently and successfully. We know that currently our main feeder secondary school focusses on French in Year 7 with Spanish being layered in during Year 8.

The French scheme of work supports pupils to meet the National curriculum end of Key stage 2 attainment targets.

Implementation

In EYFS and KS1, a specialist French teacher comes in once a week to teach French. Lessons are followed up by a voluntary lunch time club, also with a specialist teacher. Both are provided by Kidslingo. This language programme 'feeds into the key areas of learning and development in the Statutory Framework for EYFS, which is crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive.' The Kidslingo programme also 'supports the KS1 national curriculum which aims to provide a broad and balanced education that meets the needs of all pupils'. Kidslingo topics are included on our school LTP for French.

French is further embedded into every day school life, using phrases and words taught within discrete lessons.

French is taught in KS2 using the 'Kapow' online scheme.

The KS2 French scheme of work is designed with three knowledge strands that run throughout the units with knowledge building cumulatively.

These are:

- Phonics
- Vocabulary
- Grammar

This knowledge can then be applied within the skills strands, which also run throughout each unit in the scheme:

- Language comprehension (Listening and reading)
- Language production (Speaking and writing)

Our scheme provides balanced opportunities for communication in both spoken and written French. In LKS2 the focus is on developing oral skills, before incorporating increasingly complex written French in UKS2.

The scheme is a spiral curriculum, with key skills and vocabulary revisited repeatedly with increasing complexity, allowing pupils to revise and build on their previous learning.

Lessons incorporate a range of teaching strategies to encourage children to have active engagement such as independent tasks, paired and group work including role-play, language games and language detective work.

Our scheme of work focuses on developing what we term 'language detective skills' and developing an understanding of French grammar, and key vocabulary rather than on committing to memory vast amounts of French vocabulary. Pronunciation is emphasised early on using Kapow's Mouth Mechanics videos to support pupils with phoneme pronunciation in French.

We build children's confidence through praise for any contribution they make in the foreign language, however tentative.

Impact

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

In French, pupils from their Reception year through to the end of KS2 will become increasingly able to:

- engage in purposeful dialogue in practical situations (e.g., saying their name, ordering in a cafe, following directions) and express an opinion.
- make increasingly accurate attempts to read unfamiliar words, phrases, and short texts.
- speak and read aloud with confidence and accuracy in pronunciation.
- demonstrate understanding of spoken language by listening and responding appropriately.
- use a bilingual dictionary to support their language learning.
- identify word classes in a sentence and apply grammatical rules they have learnt.
- identify cognates and near-cognates and be able to use them to tackle unfamiliar words in French, English, and other languages.
- construct short texts on familiar topics.
- meet the end of Key Stage 2 stage expectations outlined in the National Curriculum for languages and be prepared for the KS3 French language curriculum.