

Modern Foreign Languages at The Mill Academy

Rationale and Intent

Through the exploration of French language and culture, our MFL curriculum provides children with the tools to develop their linguistic abilities as well as deepen their understanding of the world.

Children will develop their skills in the four key areas of language – speaking, listening, reading and writing. They will gain a deep and broad understanding of how a language works, which will in turn prepare them for future language learning. By learning the core grammatical concepts of French, children will be equipped with the confidence and understanding to manipulate language structures. Pupils will also study French culture and compare it with their own cultural practices, gaining a new and broader perspective of the world in which they live.

Implementation

In KS2, pupils are taught by a teacher for 45 minutes each week. Class teaching assistants are present and take an active part in the lessons in order to develop their own French language skills and understanding. The National Curriculum provides the basis for our MFL curriculum and the Primary Language Network scheme of work runs along side it to build knowledge and understanding of French. The lead teacher may adapt suggested tasks, based on AfL, to suit the needs of the children, and so that children's understanding can be evidenced effectively. The teacher also uses incidental learning opportunities to recall any previously taught learning. The lead teacher uses the range of resources from the Primary Languages Network scheme of work to enrich the MFL curriculum with native speaker clips, authentic literature, creative activities, songs, stories and games. This ensures that language learning has a true primary focus and is engaging for pupils.

Impact

Pupils will be able to:

- Understand and respond to spoken French
- Understand the patterns of sounds and language and use this to speak with increasingly correct pronunciation and intonation
- Speak and converse in French with confidence and fluency relevant to the stage of learning
- Write for a range of purposes, using the appropriate grammatical structures to adapt models and create original pieces
- Understand a range of texts in French, using a range of strategies such as cognates and context to deduce meaning
- Use a bilingual dictionary effectively to support their reading and writing.

At the end of each half termly unit of learning, children complete an activity that requires recall of learning from the preceding weeks.

The French teacher uses the information from these assessments to identify strengths and weaknesses in learning.