



GREENWOOD
ACADEMIES TRUST

HAZEL LEYS ACADEMY

Modern Foreign Languages Policy

Introduction

At Hazel Leys Academy we teach a foreign language to all KS2 children as part of the normal school curriculum. We do this for several reasons. Firstly, we believe that many children really enjoy learning to speak another language. Secondly, we also believe that the earlier a child is exposed to a foreign language, the faster the language in question is acquired. We also believe that it is a good idea to introduce a new language to children when they are at primary school, as they tend to be less self-conscious about speaking aloud at this stage of their development. It is widely believed that the early acquisition of a foreign language facilitates the learning of other foreign languages later in life.

Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of learning a modern foreign language in primary school are:

- To foster an interest in learning other languages.
- To introduce young children to another language in a way that is enjoyable and fun.
- To make young children aware that language has a structure, and that the structure differs from one language to another.
- To help children develop their awareness of cultural differences in other countries.
- To develop their speaking and listening skills.
- To lay the foundations for future study.

Organisation

At Hazel Leys Academy we teach a foreign language to all children in KS2.

In KS2, French is our chosen modern foreign language, and it is taught to all classes Year 3-6. All groups receive a minimum of 30 minutes teaching per week.

The Curriculum

The curriculum that we follow is based on the guidance given in the DFE KS2 Framework for Languages.

We teach the children to know and understand how to:

- Ask and answer questions.
- Use correct pronunciation and intonation.
- Memorise words.
- Interpret meaning.
- Understand basic grammar.
- Use dictionaries.
- Work in pairs and groups and communicate in another language.
- Look at life in another culture.

Teaching and learning style

We teach French using the Primary Languages Network scheme. It is based on the KS2 Framework for Languages. A fundamental principle of this school is that language learning is for all children and is inclusive in approach.

We use a variety of techniques to encourage children of all abilities to have an active engagement in the modern foreign languages. These include:

- Games
- Role play
- Songs (particularly action songs)
- Finger rhymes
- Puppets
- Mime
- Stories
- Interactive activities

We emphasis listening and speaking skills over reading and writing skills. We also use a multi-sensory and kinaesthetic approach to teaching i.e. we try to introduce a physical element into some of the games, as we believe that this serves to reinforce memory. We make the lessons as entertaining and enjoyable as possible, as we realise that this approach serves to develop a positive attitude in the children to the learning of modern foreign languages. We build children's confidence through constant praise for any contribution they make in the foreign language, however tentative.

Assessment

We assess the children in order to ensure that they make good progress in this subject. We do this informally during lessons by celebrating children's success both verbally and with digital photos of children and "can do" statements such as "I can say a finger rhyme".

We report children's progress and achievement to parents in the children's end of year school report.

Monitoring and review

We monitor teaching and learning in the same way as we do all other subjects that we teach in the academy. The head teacher also reports to the governing body on progress of children in French in the same way as in any other subject.

The Principal also liaises with the local secondary schools, so that they are aware of the modern foreign language experience of our children when they move to the next phase of their education.

IT

Wherever possible we will use IT in the provision of lessons. We aim to use software that helps the pupils to pronounce the words correctly i.e. power point stories and CD's of finger rhymes read and sung by native speakers.