



Modern Foreign Languages Policy

May 2025

This policy was reviewed and amended by the MFL coordinator, Summer term 2025.

Mission Statement

Jarrow Cross Church of England Primary School provides a caring, Christian environment where EVERYONE is welcome and given the opportunity to develop their full potential.

Introduction

At Jarrow Cross Church of England Primary School, we understand the curriculum to be all of the learning and other experiences that we plan for our pupils. We aim to make a broad, balanced, inclusive, creative and progressive curriculum that will allow our pupils to achieve their full potential and prepare them for life after primary school.

Intent

At Jarrow Cross Church of England Primary School, we intend for all children to develop positive attitudes towards other languages and cultures. This interest should be encouraged by being given regular stimulating and enjoyable French lessons which build confidence and promote the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. It is our intention to ensure that by the end of our children's primary education, they have acquired an understanding of both spoken and written French, confidence to speak in French with others and know how important other languages can be in their future.

Aims

The aims of MFL at Jarrow Cross Church of England Primary School are to:

- Foster an interest in language learning by introducing children to other languages in a way that is enjoyable and accessible to all pupils;
- Stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language and creativity in experimenting with it;
- Support oracy and literacy, and in particular develop speaking and listening skills;
- Help children develop their awareness of cultural similarities and differences;
- Lay the foundations for future language study by pupils.

Implementation

Speaking and listening

The children will learn to:

- Listen carefully and recognise sounds and combinations of sounds which are similar to, or different from, those of English;
- Understand and respond with increasing competence, accuracy and confidence in a range of situations;
- Join in songs, rhymes, raps and stories which enable them to practise the sounds of the language in an enjoyable and non-threatening way;
- Take part in conversations at an appropriate level, reacting to instructions and questions and expressing opinions and feelings;
- Memorise and recite short texts, and prepare and give a talk on a familiar subject confidently and with regard for the audience.

Reading and writing

The children will learn to:

- Remember grapheme-phoneme correspondences and vocabulary directly taught and reinforced through word games and similar activities;
- Read stories and rhymes for enjoyment and to gain awareness of the structure of the written language;
- Read, copy and write independently familiar words and simple phrases in context e.g. classroom items, display labels, weather chart, date;
- Write sentences and short texts independently and from memory.

Intercultural understanding

The children will learn to:

- Describe the life of children in the countries where the language is spoken;
- Identify similarities and differences in everyday life, social conventions, traditional stories and celebrations;
- Recognise how symbols, products and objects can represent the culture of a country, and how aspects of the culture of different countries become incorporated in the daily life of others;
- Recognise and mistrust stereotypes, and understand and respect cultural diversity.

MFL at Jarrow Cross

French is currently taught from Year 3 up to Year 6 by the class teacher or HTLA, although simple French is fed into every day lessons lower down in the school e.g. greetings, commands, door labels etc.

French is taught through Kapow scheme of learning which has been implemented from Summer 2022. Kapow supports children to progress knowledge and skills effectively. This resource is also a supportive tool for staff to develop their professional development and allow teachers to deliver the MFL curriculum with confidence. Kapow is also supportive in correct pronunciation as many units offer a 'read out loud' option and videos to keep the learning of French fun and interesting. It is encouraged to implement songs from the STC scheme of work into lessons to help retain key vocabulary. Alongside this, teachers should include French based questions in their weekly retrieval PowerPoints.

Teachers have a good understanding of the units and vocabulary. It is encouraged that teachers use French phrases and vocabulary in other areas of the curriculum in order to help retain the language learnt.

At the end of each term, the class teacher will update the foundation assessment sheets to show the objectives covered and the attainment for each child.

Staff are encouraged to attend relevant CPD to enhance and develop their French teaching skills. 1:1 training is available through C.Smith who is one of the MFL leads in South Tyneside. She offers team teaching and support with French speaking, listening and assessment.

Role of the MFL Coordinator

The MFL coordinator is responsible for:

- Reviewing and updating the policies and action plans relating to MFL.
- Monitoring standards of achievement and progression.
- Conducting book scrutinies and lesson drop ins to monitor teaching and learning.
- Termly school walk around to observe French displays / vocabulary on working walls.
- Monitoring assessment.
- Offering advice on the teaching of MFL if requested.
- Being proactive and liaising with other curriculum coordinators as well as attending termly network meetings to work with other MFL leaders across South Tyneside.
- Maintaining a portfolio of evidence of children's work across the school.
- Updating the school website in line with any updates, examples of children's work or changes to the curriculum.
- Updating and developing a whole school MFL working wall which showcases the progression of French throughout Key Stage 2.

Assessment:

The impact of Kapow Primary's scheme can be monitored continuously through both formative and summative assessment. Each lesson includes guidance to support teachers in assessing pupils against the learning objectives. An assessment spreadsheet is also available to record children's progress in each lesson to enable you to build a picture of their learning through each unit.

Children should be assessed against the expected outcomes for French at the end of each term in accordance with the school's assessment policy.

After the implementation of Kapow Primary French, pupils should leave school equipped with a range of language-learning skills to enable them to study French, or any other language, with confidence at Key Stage 3.

Miss S McGuire - MFL Coordinator