



STMARY'S
MIDDLEWICH

Curriculum Aims

At St. Mary's, we are a proud Catholic school, with Christ at the heart of everything we do. We believe that every child is a gift from God, created in his own image and likeness. Our Mission Statement affirms that our aim is that every child reaches their full potential.

Pupils' learning and development is at the centre of our school's curriculum; it is broad, balanced and challenging, ensuring pupils develop the skills necessary to succeed in life after primary school. Our welcoming and nurturing environment, based on the Gospel Values, also allows every individual to develop their spiritual, moral, social and cultural growth.

We recognise that our children are the leaders of tomorrow and that we must prepare them to play an active and responsible role in society.



INTENT

Why do we teach what we teach?

Modern Foreign Languages is the development of children's linguistic competence. It should be seen as a life long skill. Learning a language opens up avenues of communication and exploration as well as promoting, encouraging and instilling a broader cultural understanding.

MFL teaching has an import place at St Mary's and aims for the children to:

- Develop an enthusiastic and positive attitude to other languages and language learning;
- Raise awareness of aspects of their own language and make comparisons with the foreign language, thereby enriching their understanding of both;
- Increase cultural understanding by learning about different countries and their peoples;

- Develop language skills and language learning skills;
- Use their knowledge with growing confidence and competence to understand what they hear and read, and to express themselves in speech and in writing as well as to ask questions.

Children learn in a non threatening environment which builds positively upon achievements; they experience a range of activities, including songs, rhymes and games, which provide a stimulating and varied approach to language learning.



IMPLEMENTATION

How do we teach what we teach?

Children are introduced to French from EYFS and taught from Y1 to Y6 by a specialist teacher in regular weekly sessions.

The long term planning as well as single units of work are developed with progression in mind and aim to build upon pupils' previous knowledge and expand both vocabulary and grammar awareness.

Learning and teaching cover all 4 skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) with a greater emphasis on oracy in KS1 and focus on grammar in upper KS2.

Language lessons are engaging and comprise a variety of learning activities including songs, stories, games, role-play, drama and interactive ICT. They try to cater for different learning styles as well as abilities.

The objectives and the success criteria are shared with the class, ensuring the pupils know what they are learning. Links are made between aspects of the new language to children's existing knowledge and differences and similarities to language they already know are explored.

MFL teaching also aims to help children in developing their cultural understanding. To aid with this, whole school 'Special days' (such as 'Language day') are sometimes organised.



IMPACT

How do we measure what we teach?

The MFL curriculum is of high quality with elevated expectations, in line with the National Curriculum. It is planned for progression in all 4 skills.

Progress is measured in a range of ways, both formal and informal.

Pupils participate actively in all lessons and can be observed using the language learned in oral activities. Their written work is marked regularly and feedback is provided to highlight success, areas to further develop and next steps.

Mini quizzes - focusing on spaced retrieval of the content learned - are used routinely (these includes interactive quizzes on Kahoot!).

At the end of each unit, the children reflect on their learning and assess their progress completing a series of 'I can...' statements.

Assessment, highlighting which pupils are achieving, exceeding or performing below expectations, is recorded termly, and annual reports to parents are produced.



INCLUSION