

Curriculum Statement for Modern Foreign Languages

Modern Foreign Languages Intent

At Highbury the intention of the Modern Foreign Languages curriculum is to enable children to be engaged, inspired and challenged by equipping them with the knowledge and skills to speak, listen and read another language as well as understand the cultural similarities and differences.

The approaches to gaining knowledge and skills in relation to Modern Foreign Languages are taught through teaching language learning strategies for memorisation and retrieval; manipulating language to speak and write creatively; developing a sound grasp of phonemes, corresponding graphemes and knowledge of grammar associated with French and appreciate how these differ to English. In addition, the children will develop a resilience in language learning as well as enjoyment of it through challenging and engaging lessons. The Modern Foreign Languages curriculum provides equal opportunities for all children to engage in new experiences; children from all backgrounds including disadvantaged should have the same opportunities using our school values to promote positive attitudes to learning and developing a growth mind set for all, for example aspiring to travel abroad, become a translator that promotes inclusivity or even, confidence to live in a different country.

Implementation of Modern Foreign Languages

At Highbury the Modern Foreign Languages curriculum is mapped out across the whole school using the National Curriculum guidance. Modern Foreign Languages are only expected to be explicitly taught in KS2 but children within Key Stage 1 and EYFS are exposed to other language through songs and rhymes when appropriate. The Modern Foreign Languages Curriculum is planned with a progression of key skills when learning about a particular theme and new language patterns or techniques. Vocabulary is taught both explicitly and in a range of topic relevant contexts using a combination of class teachers and audio support from native French speakers. This progression takes into account prior learning, moving from word to sentence level and consolidates the key skills. The children learn the following Modern Foreign Language French skills:

- Listening, reading, speaking and writing from word to sentence level.
- Vocabulary that ensures exposure to all the key phonic sounds.
- Ability to build sentences using grammatical knowledge.
- Engage in short conversations on a range of topics.

The Modern Foreign Languages curriculum promotes reading and communication skills so children are able to apply their English skills through making links between grammatical concepts, comparing and contrasting cultural differences and have the opportunity to read and write in French in order to demonstrate knowledge, understanding and vocabulary.

Impact of the Modern Foreign Languages curriculum

Children will be learning progressive vocabulary and grammatical concepts which will allow them to develop confidence and skills for reading, writing, speaking and listening in French. This will allow them to develop bilingual techniques and language understanding, so that they are ready for the next stage of their learning at Highbury and when they leave to start their secondary education. The children will leave Highbury with a greater awareness of other cultures and languages around the world and have an enjoyment for languages. Their curriculum experiences will have allowed them to gain an understanding of the cultural diversity and how Modern Foreign Languages both reflects and shapes our history and contributes to the culture, creativity and wealth of our nation.

Completed by: L.Knight