

Signature and date [FGB/committee chair]

Slimbridge Primary School Policy

Approved: Jan 2021

To review: 2 years



Slimbridge Primary School Foreign Languages Policy

Introduction

At Slimbridge Primary School, the intention is that children gain a firm understanding of what the value of learning a foreign language is, through listening, reading, speaking and writing, whilst stressing the active, practical and positive aspects of language acquisition.

Our objective at Slimbridge Primary School is to develop a love of language, as well as an understanding of foreign language and an awareness of the different cultures associated with countries where the chosen foreign language is spoken. We believe that it is vital that children value and appreciate different languages and cultures as well as their own, so that they can become tolerant, informed and valuable citizens in the future.

We are committed to ensuring children understand the value and importance of being able to understand and speak a foreign language and we strive to include elements of fun in language learning, whilst stressing the benefit to mother tongue language skills, which the acquisition of a different language can provide.

Sources

The delivery of foreign languages at Slimbridge is informed by:

- The National Curriculum 2014.
- Focus education Key Assessment Criteria.
- The school's vision of confident linguists, who are able to use language creatively and spontaneously, and who have a strong awareness of the countries where the language is spoken.
- The school's own bespoke Scheme of Work, created and regularly adapted to meet the needs of pupils and of changing class structures.

Foreign languages teaching in school

In Key Stage 2, Foreign Language teaching is organised as follows:

- Class 3 (Years 2 and 3): the focus is on listening and speaking and pupils learn basic conversation, traditional stories, songs and rhymes. Pupils are taught by a class teacher for approximately 30 minutes per week.

- Classes 4 and 5 (Years 4, 5 and 6): pupils are taught for approximately 45 minutes per week. Lessons cover all attainment targets (Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing) and pupils are encouraged to find out about French daily life and culture through exposure to French television, music and art.

Class 4 has a French 'washing line' where new vocabulary is displayed. Pupils are encouraged to add to this display and to take ownership of the washing line.

The school holds a French Day in Term 6, where the whole school works together on a particular topic (for example, the Olympics, Bastille Day) to promote language learning and knowledge about France.

Our aims

- Develop pupils' communication and literacy skills that lay the foundation for future language learning.
- Develop linguistic competence, extend pupils' knowledge of how language works and explore differences and similarities between French and English.
- Enhance pupils' awareness of the multilingual and multicultural world and introduce an international dimension to pupils' learning, giving them an insight into their own culture and those of others.
- Provide a medium for cross-curricular links and reinforce knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other subjects.
- Foster positive attitudes towards foreign language learning.
- Form a sound basis for further study at key stage 3 and beyond.

The National Curriculum for Foreign language aims to ensure that all pupils

- understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources
- speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation
- can write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt
- discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied

Setting targets and measuring progress

Pupils in Key Stage 2 have 'Can Do' statements for their year group in the front covers of their exercise books and they assess their own progress on these at the end of each topic.

This is ongoing and continuous and informs future planning. It will follow the guidelines established in the school's assessment policy. Teachers assess children's progress informally during the lessons, evaluating progress against the four national Attainment Targets of:

- Listening and Responding
- Speaking
- Reading and Responding
- Writing

Informal comments on their progress in French will be made in reports to parents.

Meeting individual needs

At our school, we teach French to all KS2 children, whatever their ability. We recognise that all classes have children of widely differing abilities. Suitable opportunities are provided for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability and experience of the pupil. We plan for individual needs, differentiating to allow all to achieve, building self-esteem and fulfilling our aim to give all pupils the opportunity to experience success in learning and to achieve as high a standard as possible.

All activities include provision for pupils with SEND and stretch targets for More Able pupils.

Role of FL Subject Lead

The FL subject lead is responsible for all FL teaching within the school. The subject lead will:

- ensure that staff are updated on current topics and vocabulary in French so that they can reinforce structures and phrases regularly in class where appropriate
- ensure that long- and medium-term planning is regularly reviewed to take into account changes to the structure of the school
- ensure that the school has adequate resources for the teaching of French (and other languages where appropriate)

Governor monitoring

The governor with responsibility for SMSC monitors the teaching of French at Slimbridge. This is done through meetings with the FL teacher, looking at pupils' books and displays around the school and visiting lessons, where appropriate.