



# MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES POLICY

*Aspiring to inspire others towards excellence, developing as individuals together in a distinctively Christian environment.*

1 Corinthians, 12:14 "For the body is not one member, but many".

Ratified by the Governing Body: Spring 2023

Review Date: *Autumn 2026*

## 1. Introduction & Aims

This policy has been written and reviewed in line with the National Curriculum 2014.

The learning of a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for the pupils. Pupils develop communication and literacy skills that lay the foundation for future language learning. They develop linguistic competence, extend their knowledge of how language works and explore differences and similarities between English and other European Modern Foreign languages. Learning another language raises awareness of the multilingual and multicultural world and introduces an international dimension to pupils' learning, giving them an insight into their own culture and those of others. The learning of a foreign language provides a medium for cross-curricular links and for reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other subjects.

The aims and objectives of learning a Modern Foreign Language in primary school are to:

- foster an interest in learning other languages;
- introduce young children to another language in a way that is enjoyable and fun;
- stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language;
- encourage children to be aware that language has structure and that the structure differs from one language to another;
- help the children develop their awareness of cultural differences in other countries;
- develop their speaking and listening skills;
- lay the foundations for future study;

The children are taught how to:

- ask and answer questions;
- use correct pronunciation and grammar;
- memorise words;
- interpret meaning;
- understand basic grammar;
- work in pairs and groups and communicate in French;
- look at life in another culture.

## 2. Procedures and practice

### 2.1 Teaching & Planning:

In line with the National Curriculum, and to ensure consistency, children in all Key Stage 2 year groups are taught **French**.

The teaching of French at Little Waltham C.E.V.A Primary School is based on the Primary Languages Network (PLN) scheme of work, to which the school subscribes. The Primary Languages Network scheme of work provides teachers with plans, interactive resources including lesson videos of French speakers (ideal for the non-specialists) and paper resources to use to reinforce learning within the lesson.

At Little Waltham C.E.V.A Primary, French is currently taught to all children for approximately 30 minutes a week. Children are taught by class teachers in conjunction with the PLN interactive resources, which also provide video lessons taught by a native speaker to assist accurate pronunciation and delivery.

The lesson plans in the scheme approaches different topics in turn using a wide variety of activities that allow children to hear, see and practise speaking new vocabulary and sounds. This includes video lessons, games, stories and more immersive contexts and situations for using vocabulary, phrases and skills. The materials available with the scheme include printable resources and interactive resources.

There is a clear progression of skills within and across year groups. In accordance with the National Curriculum, there is a focus on development of skills. This moves from a focus on speaking and listening in Years 3 and 4, towards a greater emphasis on reading and writing in Years 5 and 6.

## **2.2 Organisation & Approach**

Teachers use a variety of techniques to encourage children to be actively engaged with a modern foreign language, including through the use of games, role play and action songs. Teachers try to make lessons as enjoyable as possible so that the children develop a positive attitude to the learning of Modern Foreign Languages. Children's confidence is built through praise for any contribution they make, however tentative. The useful video lessons with a French speaking teacher are thorough and enable all children to listen, repeat, pronounce, learn and embed a range of phrases and vocabulary, providing them with a solid foundation for taking the language on to the next level in Key Stage Three and beyond. Some teaching staff are competent and confident when speaking French and can use the resources, including the video lessons, to tailor the content to their classes.

### **2.3 Assessment:**

Teachers assess children's progress formatively during lessons, evaluating progress against the four national Attainment Targets of:

1. Listening and Responding
2. Speaking
3. Reading and responding
4. Writing

Teachers implement the school's feedback policy across all lessons, supporting pupils to refine their pronunciation through questioning techniques and repetition.

Pupil assessment for MFL is recorded on Insight on a termly basis by class teachers for the subject leader to analyse.

### **3.0 Monitoring and Evaluation:**

The implementation of this policy will be monitored by the subject lead for MFL. The quality of French teaching will be evaluated through lesson drop ins, pupil voice and work sampling.

The link MFL school governor will support the monitoring of this subject area each term.