



South Bank Primary School Curriculum Statement

FRENCH

2023/2024

Subject Leader: Lucy Redshaw

Intent

At South Bank Primary School, it is our intention that children receive high-quality language lessons that enable all children to experience learning and using a foreign language in a way that is engaging, inclusive and exciting. We aim to stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language, develop an interest in learning other languages and broaden their understanding of cultural differences and similarities. Through learning about other cultures, they will be given the opportunity to show kindness and compassion to others. By promoting an awareness of and respect for our diverse and changing world, we aim for our children to make valuable contributions to the community locally, nationally and globally.

We encourage children's motivation, resilience and self-esteem by enabling them to experience success in learning a foreign language in an inclusive way. By progressively enhancing children's skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing, we aim to develop their ability to communicate in a variety of ways for practical purposes. Their creativity will be developed through role play and writing and learning stories and poems. We aim to cultivate a positive attitude towards and lay the foundations for future language learning.

At South Bank Primary we aspire to help children develop into linguists, building progressively each year on the following key concepts:

Speak confidently - This concept involves using key vocabulary and phrases to verbally communicate ideas.

Understand the culture of the countries in which the language is spoken - This concept involves the background knowledge and cultural capital needed to infer meaning from interaction.

Read fluently - This concept involves recognising key vocabulary and phrases.

Write imaginatively - This concept involves using key vocabulary and phrases to write ideas.

Implementation

All children have one 30-minute French lesson per week in KS2. We are looking to introduce children in KS1 to French through the new celebration of European Languages Day in September 2024. This will be a whole school approach to celebrating languages with a French focus, whilst encouraging discussion around diversity and languages from around the world.

The curriculum is ambitious and follows the national curriculum programme of study, using the Kapow scheme of work as a starting point. Lesson activities are challenging, varied and interactive and develop listening, reading, speaking, and writing skills. Lessons are designed to be progressive and build on prior learning, moving from word to sentence level over the four KS2 years. The choice of vocabulary ensures exposure to all the key phonic sounds and ability to build sentences using grammatical knowledge. The curriculum uses a variety of strategies to engage the children and develop their confidence and enjoyment of language learning. These include songs, games, role-plays, familiar books and stories, video clips and art activities. Bilingual dictionaries and word mats provide support and opportunities for challenge. It also enables children to develop their understanding about the world around them, tuning in to different languages and recognising cultural differences.

The Kapow French scheme of work is designed with six strands that run throughout:

- Speaking and pronunciation
- Listening

- Reading and writing
- Grammar
- Intercultural understanding
- Language detective skills

The curriculum mapping shows which units cover each of the National curriculum attainment targets as well as each of the strands. The Progression of skills and knowledge shows the skills and knowledge that are taught within each year group and how these skills develop to ensure that attainment targets are securely met by the end of Key Stage 2.

Through Kapow Primary's French scheme, pupils are given opportunities to communicate for practical purposes around familiar subjects and routines. The scheme provides balanced opportunities for communication in both spoken and written French, although in Year 3 the focus is on developing oral skills, before incorporating written French in Year 4 and beyond.

Lessons incorporate a range of teaching strategies from independent tasks, paired and group work including role-play, language games and language detective work. The scheme of work focuses on developing an understanding of French grammar, rather than on committing to memory vast amounts of French vocabulary. Differentiated guidance, sound files and presentations are available for every lesson to ensure that lessons can be accessed and enjoyed by all.

Impact

At South Bank, staff monitor children's progress through both formative and summative assessment. On a more informal basis, assessment is used each lesson/unit to check children's understanding ready to inform future lessons. Assessment is also measured formatively through self and peer assessment. Summative assessment is completed at the end of each term. Evidence for MFL can be found in floor books where photos, work and QR codes of speaking lessons show the development of the language gained throughout the year. MFL lead completes TBOs and converses with staff to monitor the delivery of the curriculum.

Children develop key language learning skills, as set out by the national curriculum. By the end of KS2 children, understand longer and more challenging texts on a range of topic areas, compose their own sentences in conversations using knowledge of basic sentence structure and write a range of phrases and sentences from memory and adapt them to write their own sentences. Children understand that language has a structure and that that structure may differ from one they are familiar with. Children can talk about France and other French speaking countries, identifying similarities and differences in everyday life, social conventions, and celebrations with their own, whilst understanding and respecting cultural diversity. MFL lessons result in children who are enthusiastic and positive about learning a foreign language and are inspired to learn more about both language skills and cultures.