



MFL at St James CE Primary School



Intent

Our MFL provision aims to create excitement, curiosity and inclusivity by providing the building blocks and transferable skills to learn a language. It also aims to develop an awareness and appreciation for other languages and cultures in and outside of school whilst also understanding the usefulness of languages in society.

Curriculum

German is taught as the language is easily accessible to all children and is a language that is taught in our local main secondary schools so children will continue to learn this language beyond St James.

Knowledge/Skill development:

- Understand and respond to language.
- Speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity.
- Communicate through discussion.
- Accurate pronunciation of words and phrases.
- Write at varying length for different audiences using the correct grammatical structures.

Concept development: Phonics and grammar.

Sequencing of content:

MFL is a linear subject which requires starting with the basics and then building on these once they are secure. Pupils learn the German phonics and quickly become confident in pronouncing new words. Similarities with the children's first language are frequently mentioned and new grammar is always modelled and explained. As each building block becomes secure, more is added. E.g teaching the vocabulary of pets (nouns), characteristics (adjectives), then activities (verbs). The pupils are then able to start creating sentences and express opinions. By the end of Year 3 they can say what they like and justify this using the conjunction because. The KS2 Framework shows what pupils should achieve at the end of each year and is reviewed each lesson to ensure pupils move on at the right stage. At the end of Year 6, evidence is gathered for pupils to demonstrate in KS3 what they have learnt.

Implementation

How is it taught?

- Reading for knowledge is key.
- MFL is delivered through weekly stand alone lessons by a specialist MFL teacher.
- There is an overview of which MFL objectives should be covered every half term. This overview shows progression through the year groups.
- MFL vocabulary is taught and shared/displayed during each lesson for pupils to access and use.
- Teaching relates, where possible, to other curriculum topics which are being taught in school to extend and develop children's knowledge further.
- Combination of power-point, worksheets and props are used alongside pupil's verbally answering questions to develop their language knowledge.
- Pupils learn following the process: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. In Year 3, the lessons mainly involve speaking and listening. The opportunities for reading and writing develop once the building blocks of language are understood.

Support:

All MFL lessons are accessible to all pupils because the majority all start from the same learning point with the understanding of phonics from Key Stage 1, supporting their understanding of language. Many pupils see MFL as a new challenge. During lessons, there is frequent use of images alongside the new vocabulary being taught. This helps to build up the memory of the words with the images. Where appropriate, props and CDs may be used. Props to reinforce language to the children and CDs to allow the children to listen to language in other way, perhaps through song.

Impact

How do we know our children have learnt more and remembered more?

Ongoing assessment within lessons.

Responses to key questions.

Whole class chanting and repetition of new vocabulary.

Retrieval practice: Children take part in regular mini-quizzes and retrieval activities to strengthen their memory. Each lesson begins with a questioning re-cap of what has been taught previously.

Cold Call: Ask a variety of children questions about previously taught content to ensure all are engaged.

Teacher assessment related to core content/knowledge gained at the end of each unit.

Specialist teacher writes a progress form after each lesson to reflect on the progress of the children, to plan for the following lesson for each year group.

What are we aiming for?

As linguists, our children should be able to:

- Communicate with accurate pronunciation.
- Understand language is a transferable skill.
- Appreciate languages and understand how they can open the doors to many new worlds and cultures.