



Hawes Primary School



Modern Foreign Languages (French) Rationale

'A high-quality languages education should foster pupils' curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. The teaching should enable pupils to express their ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and in writing. It should also provide opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes' (National Curriculum 2013).

Learning a foreign language at Hawes Primary School will help to develop pupils' understanding of the world. The children are expected to make substantial progress in French, through an appropriate balance of spoken and written language, which will lay the foundations for further foreign languages teaching at KS3.

French is broken down into four sections; listen, speak, read and write - all four areas are covered age- appropriately each year in KS2, through topics that operate on a two-year programme. The units of knowledge are deliberately chosen to enable children to build language knowledge which is relevant to them and which they could use in real-life situations. French is taught from Y3 to Y6 through deliberate practice in a supportive environment, which enables pupils to improve their fluency leading to mastery and an alteration to their long term memory.

The curriculum is balanced and sequenced appropriately in order to develop the attributes and qualities needed to understand and participate confidently in French and reach the end of key stage expectations. The Year 3/4 curriculum is weighted towards developing children's skills to listen and speak French through deliberate practice and role-play. In addition, they begin to write from memory. The Year 5/6 curriculum is more weighted towards reading and writing French with appropriate grammar.

By the end of Year 6, children should know, apply and understand the skills and processes within French. Children leave Y6 with fluency and automaticity, which gives them the confidence for language learning at KS3.

At Hawes Primary School, we follow Language Angels for our French scheme. French is taught once a week to classes two and three.

Knowledge

Substantive knowledge in French is based on the acquisition of the knowledge of how to listen, speak, read and write in the language. Children will also develop substantive knowledge of the French culture, its tradition and some of its history.

Creativity

Children develop creativity in French through connecting prior knowledge to new knowledge and adapting this to create new sentences.

Assessment in modern foreign languages

Assessment in French consists of a prior knowledge, low stakes quizzes which not only gives children the opportunity to demonstrate connected knowledge held in the long term memory but also identifies any misconceptions that the children may have. These misconceptions are addressed immediately. Children continue to recall their knowledge daily in short bursts to ensure an alteration to long term memory.

Reviewed: September 2024

Next Review Date: September 2025