LANGUAGES POLICY

Lakenheath Community Primary School



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Head Teacher's Signature	M-77
Chair of Governors' Signature	Society

Document Change History

Version	Date	Change Details
1	April 2019	N/A
2	December 2020	Changes to reflect a 2 year cycle and assessment descriptors to reflect school practice.
3	March 2022	Policy Review, complete re-write.
4	November 2023	Policy Review, no changes.

Learning a foreign language helps to foster curiosity and deepen understanding of the world.

1. Intent

The national curriculum states that the purpose of teaching a foreign language is to, 'foster pupils curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world,' as well as to help them to, 'understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and in writing,' and, 'provide opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes.'

Language learning supports and celebrates the international dimension

Although it enjoys much more linguistic diversity than in the past, England remains a place where the motivation to learn another language is affected by the position of English as a widely spoken, world language. This makes it even more important that we give all children the chance to learn a language in order to gain insights into their own lives and those of others around the world. They need the chance to learn about people in other countries and cultures and to reflect upon their own cultural identities and those of other people. Learning French, and learning about the countries where it is spoken, are also intended to promote aspiration for travel and a broadening of life experience.

At Lakenheath Community Primary School, we work hard to ensure children gain a strong understanding of the world, fostering a celebration of different cultures. We believe in providing children with the opportunity to communicate for practical purposes and learn new ways of thinking. This gives children the foundation they need to continue to learn languages in more depth at secondary school.

2. Implementation

The key elements of foreign language learning at Lakenheath are:

- Our language learning is inclusive and enjoyable for all.
- The main language we study is French.
- Children are exposed to different cultures throughout EYFS and KS1.
- French is taught in 2 year cycles across KS2 (year 3/4 and year 5/6)
- The curriculum also encompasses learning about French life and culture.

At Lakenheath Community Primary School, we learn French following the Language Angels scheme of work. Children progress in their learning and build upon their prior knowledge as they move through the school. For the majority of the school year, KS2 children have weekly French lessons. Our programme of study is progressive to embed learning. The majority of our focus is on speaking and listening task with an emphasis on practical communication for everyday situations. As the pupils' knowledge progresses, more reading and writing in French is introduced.

Here is our 2 yearly cycle:



Lakenheath Community Primary School: French Scheme of Work



In EYFS and KS1, children are exposed to different languages and cultures through songs and stories. Throughout the year, there are also special occasions where other languages and cultures are celebrated in school.

Language learning stimulates children's creativity

Children enjoy taking an active part in language lessons. They join in with singing, reciting rhymes and poems, and respond to stories. They play games, take turns and experiment creatively with language.

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Inclusion

Each class at Lakenheath Primary School contains children from a wide range of abilities and we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for them all by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. This means that, where appropriate, written work will be differentiated according to ability. French is, however, a highly inclusive subject and although the principal aim of the teaching is to develop children's knowledge, skills and understanding, there is also an emphasis on enjoyment. French is taught to all KS2 children, whatever their ability and individual needs. We strive hard to meet the needs of those pupils with special educational needs, those with disabilities, those with special gifts and talents and those learning English as an additional language (EAL) and we take all reasonable steps to achieve this.

3. Impact

We use a range of strategies to assess what skills and knowledge the children have attained throughout each lesson as well as the following methods:

- Lesson observations
- Book looks
- Pupil voice

Assessment in languages is carried out annually for each KS2 pupil by their subject teacher and communicated directly to the SLT an parents through the children's end of year report. The assessment rates a child according to their development within their year group. This takes the form of:

- Well below ARE (Age related expectations)
- Below ARE
- Just below ARE
- ARE
- Above ARE
- Well above ARE.