



Aspiring Ashwood

French

French

Intent



The teaching of Modern Foreign Languages is a pivotal part of our creative curriculum at Ashwood Spencer Academy. We are committed to the principle that learning another language helps to foster a curiosity and develop a deeper understanding of other cultures and the world around us. We aim for all of our students to leave Key Stage 2 being able to understand, speak, read and write in another language. This will provide them with the foundations of language learning which will open doors to lifelong talents and opportunities. Modern Foreign Languages allows the development of linguistic competence and confidence in speaking, reading, writing and listening in French thus promoting an awareness and understanding of the world and other cultures. Children can develop their understanding of the chosen language of French and apply the skills of phonetics and grammar to a number of carefully selected topics. We want our pupils to be linguistics for the future.

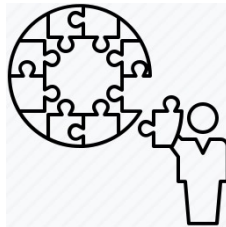
Planning



MFL uses the Language Angels scheme which carefully increases the level of difficulty throughout the four-year programme of study. Our aim is to develop the confidence and competence of each child in the foreign language they are learning. Our goal is for them to be passionate, curious and confident about their own foreign language learning abilities when they finish the primary school phase of their education. Teaching of MFL at Ashwood will help our students develop and demonstrate substantial progress in the 5 key language skills necessary for learning French: Speaking, listening, reading, writing and grammar.

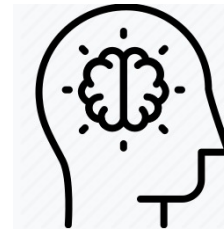
We aim to ensure that pupils of all abilities develop solid foundations in these key language learning skills - properly preparing them for the next stage of their language learning journey. These skills will develop children's ability to understand what they hear and read and enable them to express themselves in speech and writing. We will extend their knowledge of how language works and explore the similarities and differences between the foreign language they are learning and English. We will also help strengthen their sense of identity through learning about culture in other countries and comparing it with their own.

Implementation



At Ashwood Spencer, we use a variety of teaching and learning styles in our MFL sessions. Teachers plan their lessons using the Language Angels scheme of work. Each teaching unit is divided into 6 fully planned lessons. Units are progressive within themselves as subsequent lessons within a unit build on the language and knowledge taught in previous lessons. As pupils progress through the lessons in a unit they will build their knowledge and develop the complexity of the language they use. Teachers are encouraged to supplement their teaching using their own ideas and the experience of other colleagues around school. The lessons are designed to motivate, captivate and interest children from the first moment. They have clear, achievable objectives and incorporate different learning styles. Children receive lessons that use pictures, word cards, videos and songs, together with opportunities to practice conversational skills. Interactive games are implemented where applicable.

Assessment



At Ashwood Spencer Academy, we assess the children's work in French by making informal judgements as we observe the children during lessons. Pupils also undertake a selection of low stake quizzes throughout the half term which enables spaced retrieval opportunities to embed the learning further. Termly, MFL is assessed through the following five strands: speaking, listening, reading, writing and grammar. Teachers RAG rate each of the strand statements and then identify children who are not on track to meet their year group objectives by the end of summer term. Assessments are done formatively. However, language angels does have a summative assessment tool which can be used by teachers as further evidence towards their judgement.

Enrichment



Modern Foreign Languages in itself, gives a wealth of opportunity to build the children's cultural capital. We provide enrichment opportunities throughout the school year, including inviting language specific visitors in to school to give assemblies and work alongside children. Claire Storey, who is an English literary translator, has been in as part of an aspirations morning and shown our students just 1 example of a career involving languages. As a school we are always looking to be involved in building a partnerships with foreign schools through a matching website. Additionally, we have held fashion shows demonstrating typical / traditional clothing from France. We have explored weather forecasts based on maps of France. We have also had whole school celebrations of national feast days from France to facilitate a whole school approach to foreign language learning along with improved cultural awareness.

Linking Learning



Due to the design of our creative curriculum approach at Ashwood, there are many opportunities for French to contribute to other curriculum areas. Within MFL, contributions are made towards D&T where French food knowledge is learned and opportunities are given for children to prepare food and taste it. In addition, contributions can be made to their RE learning as religious festivals in France are compared to religious festivals in the United Kingdom. There are also opportunities to contribute to pupils' PSHE learning as we respect and appreciate the way of life for people in France and their everyday customs. There are MFL contributions to Maths where shopping topics are covered, involving money used in France, totalling items and using French number names. MFL learning also contributes to Music through learning songs and singing them during MFL lessons. There are lots of opportunities for children to learn Geography and History through MFL teaching. Investigating monuments and learning names of the capital city and river. Through History children can learn the history of French Art, architecture and French royalty. MFL will also contribute to Art where pupils across the school will learn about French artist Matisse and adopt his artistic style through various mediums and methods.

French

National Curriculum



Exceeding Curriculum



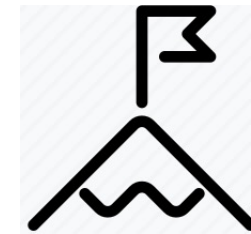
The Ashwood Children



Ambitious for DP, SEND and EAL



How is it challenging?



An Ashwood Linguist



Our modern foreign languages curriculum fulfils the requirements of the National Curriculum. All aims and subject content statements are met by the time the children have completed their Ashwood Journey. The programmes of study are taught in the allocated key stage. Children officially begin their French journey in KS2.

Our whole school approach to language teaching and learning is in line with the recommendations of the National Curriculum and the requirements outlined in the Department for Education Languages Programme of Study for Key Stage 2. We aim to do this through engaging and purposeful topics that relate to the Ashwood children.

The long-term plan has been written from the perspective that everybody is at a beginner level starting point due to both the lockdown and French not being consistently taught every year in the past. Due to this, all year groups are covering the national curriculum objectives as a whole during their time at Ashwood. Where ever possible, our topics are mapped out to fit in with our wider curriculum.

Our curriculum is ambitious for all children. All children have access to the curriculum and to ensure that children can access it, we use resources such as:

- Visual representations
- Real-life experiences (through technology, artifacts and field-trips)
- Acting things out through drama and song
- Dual-coding throughout lessons
- CiP3

We aim to ensure that pupils of all abilities develop solid foundations in these key language learning skills - properly preparing them for the next stage of their language learning journey. These skills will develop children's ability to understand what they hear and read and enable them to express themselves in speech and writing.

Knowledge and understanding that is mapped out in our French curriculum which is particularly challenging includes:

- The grammatical structures of the language
- the concept of whole high frequency irregular verb
- Speaking the language fluently

Lessons offering appropriate levels of challenge and stretch will be taught at all times to ensure pupils learn effectively, continuously building their knowledge of and enthusiasm for the language(s) they are learning.

Having studied our French curriculum, an Ashwood child will leave us :

- With a genuine interest and positive curiosity about foreign languages
- finding foreign language enjoyable and stimulating.
- having had the opportunity to explore relationships between language and identity
- With a deeper understanding of other cultures and the world around them with a better awareness of self, others and cultural differences.
- working towards becoming life-long language learners.