



EMNETH ACADEMY RATIONALE

Subject

Foreign Languages

Leader

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Learning a foreign language is a way in which we help everyone understand others and provides an opening to other cultures.

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, learn new ways of thinking and read great literature in the original language. Language teaching should provide the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries (Department of Education, 2013)

Learning a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our pupils. It helps them to develop communication skills including the key skills of speaking and listening as well as extending their knowledge of how a language works. Learning a foreign language gives children a new perspective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own cultures and those of others. It enhances self-esteem, as well as laying a firm foundation for language learning throughout their life.

Our aim is to provide a broad, balanced and relevant foreign languages experience within the framework of the National Curriculum. The MFL curriculum provides pupils with an involvement in real communication, where they find language activities interesting and stimulating. Children are provided with opportunities which give language learning a purpose as well as providing greater cultural awareness of the country (or countries) where the target language is spoken. We provide activities which are relevant to their own lives. Through the teaching of Foreign Languages, pupils should be taught to:

- Listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding.
- Explore patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words.
- Engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help.

- Speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures.
- Develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud of using familiar words or phrases.
- Present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences.
- Read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing.
- Appreciated songs, poems and rhymes in the language.
- Broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary.
- Write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences.
- Describe people, places, actions and things orally and in writing.

Children undertake a broad and balanced curriculum that takes account of abilities, aptitudes and physical, emotional and intellectual development. We ensure that learning of both language and culture is embedded into the broader curriculum for the children to develop an international outlook. Through using the Salut scheme, teachers who are not linguistically competent are therefore able to follow a structured scheme to ensure children have a clear understanding in order to ensure that they progress.

During key stage 1 pupils are involved in early language experiences such as answering the register in different languages, learning foreign language songs and hearing stories from different countries as part of mother tongue celebration events.

During key stage 2, French is taught to all pupils in Years 3 to 6 as part of the curriculum, using the Salut scheme of work. We aim to ensure that the learning of a foreign language is positive and rewarding so that this will influence the learners' attitudes for years to come.

Where appropriate, teachers give children opportunities to practise their foreign language in the context of lessons in other subjects. For instance, some instructions may be given in another language in a PE lesson or in daily classroom interactions. Children may count in another language when carrying out a Maths activity. This acts to reinforce the vocabulary and structures they have learned and give learning a real purpose.

The Modern Foreign Language curriculum aims to inspire and foster children's curiosity for different languages and cultures by giving them opportunities to investigate and enhance their love and knowledge for different civilisations.

