



"You are the light of the world, let your light shine." (Matthew 5:14-16)

## **French Policy**

## Overview:

Speaking and listening, reading and writing are fundamental for children to access learning and to develop as well rounded individuals; they are everywhere, from books, to maths, to design technology and a conversation with another person. As such, at Whaddon we aim to develop children's English skills throughout our whole curriculum, enabling children to see language, reading and writing as both useful and enjoyable skills in their daily lives.

## Aims and Objectives:

At Whaddon, we aim to ensure that:

- Children are given a secure foundation for literacy in Foundation Stage, through a child-led approach within which children's language and communication skills are given time to develop
- Oracy is used throughout the curriculum to develop children's confidence and communication skills
- Children develop confidence and fluency in reading and a love of reading
- Books are central to our school; our curriculum includes high-quality books and each class has an attractive and well-used reading area
- Children are given a purpose for reading and writing
- English skills are used, developed and embedded throughout the wider curriculum
- Children feel confident about their reading and writing skills, whatever their age or ability
- Children are given opportunities to use their developing English skills to pursue their own interests and ideas
- Teaching is carefully matched to children's abilities, skills and interests to maximise learning potential

At Whaddon CofE School, we are committed to providing our pupils with a broad and rich French curriculum that prepares them for future language learning and fosters an appreciation of French culture.

## **Our Intent**

We intend for our pupils to:

**Develop comprehensive language skills** through regular opportunities to practise speaking, listening, reading and writing in French. We ensure that the language skills taught are practical and relevant, equipping pupils with the French they will use in real-life contexts as they progress through their education and beyond.

**Build cultural capital** by exploring the rich culture of France and French-speaking countries. Through our curriculum, pupils will gain an understanding of French history, geography, sport, music and food, enabling them to appreciate the diversity and traditions of French-speaking communities around the world.

**Develop confidence and curiosity** as language learners. We want our pupils to approach French with enthusiasm, developing the resilience and skills needed to communicate effectively in another language.

## **Implementation**

Our French curriculum, using the Kapow scheme is carefully sequenced to ensure progression in all four language skills. Lessons are designed to be engaging and interactive, incorporating:

- **Speaking and listening activities** that develop pronunciation, intonation and conversational skills
- **Reading and writing tasks** that build vocabulary and grammatical understanding progressively
- **Cultural exploration** through topics such as French festivals, famous French figures, regional geography, traditional cuisine and French music and sport

We ensure that language learning is embedded across the curriculum, making meaningful connections to pupils' broader learning experiences.

## **Impact**

By the time pupils leave Whaddon CofE School, they will have developed a solid foundation in French language skills and a genuine appreciation for French culture. They will be confident communicators who can apply their language skills in practical contexts and who are well-prepared for further language study at secondary school.

## **Equality of Opportunity and SEND**

At Whaddon Church of England School, we value, nurture and celebrate the skills and talents of every child. Our broad and rich curriculum is aspirational, engaging and inclusive.

We strive to enable all children to achieve their best and optimise their potential through high-quality teaching, careful planning - in line with developmental stage and interests of cohorts - removal of barriers in order to fully access the curriculum e.g. writing frames, visual prompts, adapted resources and alternative methods of recording; across the curriculum.

Our carefully adapted teaching, planning and learning opportunities are designed to reduce, and ultimately remove gaps between disadvantaged and vulnerable learners and their peers.

Our commitment to engaging, inspiring and equipping all learners with the skills and knowledge they require to be successful in their next steps and life is at the heart of our curriculum intent and fosters the implementation of our curriculum. This ensures equality of opportunity and a broad and rich provision, for all learners, in a personalised way.

Careful consideration is afforded to the broad and diverse offer interwoven throughout our curriculum, reflecting our multi-cultural, multi-faith school community and ensuring quality, first-hand experiences are presented in a multitude of ways. This enables full participation, access and maximum engagement.

All of our educational visits are fully risk assessed and planned, so that every child may access and enjoy these enriching opportunities, ensuring meaningful and memorable experiences which support deeper learning and understanding.

**Reading and writing:** Pupils at Whaddon CofE School access French learning from KS2. They are taught to read and write French, building up from simple vocabulary to creating more complex sentences and paragraphs. Grammar is taught throughout – looking at the way that articles change up to the conjugation of auxiliary verbs as well as regular verbs. Teachers help children to recognise where language is similar to English and how we can use this to help our understanding of unknown language. The units of learning have been chosen to help children experience language that will be useful and meaningful to them when they use their language skills in the real world.

### **Speaking and listening:**

Similarly to the teaching of Reading and Writing, when our pupils access opportunities to speak and listen in French, they are using language that will be pertinent to situations that they will encounter. Pupils are given the opportunity to rehearse speaking skills, including practising the phonic skills needed to speak French accurately. The use of repetition aids pupils in recognising words that are being said and ensuring their pronunciation is accurate. Pupils are given the opportunity to listen to a range of French speakers, from the teacher to native Francophones to ensure that they understand that French can be pronounced differently in different parts of the world.

### **Cultural:**

Our scheme of work allows us to access cultural elements of the French speaking world – through history, geography, music, fashion and sport. Children will learn about these using their French language skills as well as learning in English. This will allow them to gather an appreciation and understanding of French culture.

### **Learning Outside the Classroom:**

We recognise that opportunities for children to learn outside of the traditional classroom context are vital for both their education and their wellbeing. As such, teachers provide for and plan opportunities for children to learn using the school grounds as well as the wider community. In Foundation Stage, children have continual access to the outdoor environment where, through their own learning and adult interactions, they use and develop their English skills in real-life contexts.

Teachers look for LOtC opportunities wherever possible, often through giving children the choice of learning indoors or outdoors, but also by taking them off the school premises and into other learning contexts. When planning school

visits and follow up work, opportunities to use English skills are maximised; for example, older children regularly contribute to our school newsletter by reporting on trips and events.

### **Social, Moral, Spiritual, Cultural:**

We aim to support children's SMSC development throughout everything we do at Whaddon School. Through the French Curriculum specifically, this includes:

- Exposure to cultural heritage from France and French speaking countries
- Exposure to texts from a range of cultures
- Discussions of stories, specifically characters' actions and motivations
- Opportunities to work collaboratively
- Development of a love for exploring a new language
- Developing spirituality through stories from the Bible and other religious texts

### **Assessment:**

Ongoing assessment is an integral part of the teaching and learning process. Teachers assess children in a number of ways to ensure that future teaching is closely matched to each child's needs. In KS2, teachers and teaching assistants continually assess children throughout a lesson, and developmental marking and feedback with the children ensures that misconceptions are addressed instantly, and that children's learning is continually moving forward. Assessment at the end of each lesson informs the next lesson's planning and teaching.

Children will also begin to peer assess in KS2. This allows them to critically, but positively assess each other's work and suggest improvements, whilst also being exposed to ideas and techniques that their peers are using.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation:**

In September of each academic year, the subject leader produces an action plan for the development of English throughout the year. Actions are carried out throughout the year and further areas for improvement are identified as needed. Actions include, but are not restricted to:

- Learning walks □ Team teaching
- Professional development opportunities
- Analysis of data
- Interviews with children
- Book looks

In July, the subject leader writes a report summarising the year's actions and achievements, which is presented to the governors.