

Modern Foreign Languages



"The limits of my language mean the limits of my world."

Ludwig Wittgenstein

"Language is the road map of a culture. It tells you where its people come from and where they are going."

Rita Mae Brown

Intent

At St. Augustine's we understand that when you learn a new language you don't just learn a new way of speaking – you learn a new way of thinking. A high-quality language education should spark children's curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. We aim to enable children to express themselves in another language; and to understand and respond to native speakers of that language, both in speech and in writing. Our language teaching provides opportunities for our pupils to communicate for practical purposes, learn new ways of thinking and experience foreign literature in the original language. At St. Augustine's we aim to provide the foundation for further language learning at secondary school and beyond, giving our children the opportunity to study and work in countries outside of the UK.

The **national curriculum** for languages aims to ensure that all pupils:

1. understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources;
2. speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation;
3. can write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt; and
4. discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied.

Implementation

At St. Augustine's we have chosen to teach French throughout Key Stage Two. Pupils are provided with a dedicated half-hour French lesson each week, which is followed up by shorter sessions throughout the week to consolidate their learning. Our lessons follow the Lightbulb Languages programme of study, as well as other resources. Topics covered include: family, numbers, colours, parts of the body, school, weather and seasons, likes and dislikes, food, animals, celebrations and many more. The children are encouraged to develop their speaking and listening skills through conversational work, singing activities and games. As their confidence and skills grow, they begin to record their learning through pictures, captions and sentences.

As well as learning the French language, pupils also learn about French culture. They are given the opportunity to enjoy experiences such as tasting typical French foods, listening to French music and reading French literature. They also learn about the many other countries around the world that have French as an official language.

Impact

The impact of MFL in St. Augustine's is that we have children who are excited about their French learning. They can communicate in both oral and written French and they are equipped with the skills they need to continue to learn languages at KS3.

The delivery of the French curriculum is monitored by the MFL subject leader through lesson drop-ins, book looks and pupil discussions. The subject leader works with other staff members to ensure that our pupils are receiving the best possible languages provision.