

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Curriculum Policy

Policy name	Modern Foreign Language Policy
Member of Staff Responsible	Subject leader (Kerry Beck) & SLT
Issue Status/Date	15 th September 2025
Review Date	15 th September 2028

This policy has been adopted by the Governors/Directors in consultation with the Computing subject leader and teaching staff.

This policy should be read in conjunction with other policies in school including: Teaching and Learning, Assessment, Marking and Feedback and other curriculum policies.

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to set out the aims, objectives and implementation of MFL throughout the school. MFL helps children to develop communication skills, including key skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing. Languages are an essential part of a broad, balanced curriculum. Not only do they provide an opportunity to communicate more effectively with others, they also help children to understand what it is to be a global citizen. This includes the importance of tolerance and understanding, which is crucial knowledge in today's world.

Intent

MFL teaching at Swineshead St Mary's Primary School aims to give all children a strong understanding of the world around them whilst acquiring specific skills and knowledge to help them to understand and speak languages unfamiliar to them, particularly French.

The ambitions for our curriculum:

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- High aspirations permeate across the school
- The school offers a host of cultural experiences and enrichment opportunities
- Our pupils develop a love of life-long reading
- British Values are an intrinsic part of the school

Our MFL teaching uses an enquiry process to allow pupils to learn for themselves. These processes, at work in the whole curriculum, are suited to the substantive and disciplinary knowledge required to be linguistic. Our curriculum enables children's curiosity, questioning and a willingness to learn a new language. This in turn, ensures that our children are confident, life-long learners who will explore the world around them. Within MFL, we have identified the declarative knowledge to allow our pupils to become successful in a new language. This is set out in more detail in our termly plans.

Teaching and Learning

MFL is delivered using the Rigolo scheme.

Staff will refer to Statutory National Curriculum guidance to ensure that subject content is covered appropriately for each key stage.

MFL is taught consistently, once a week for up to half an hour in all KS2 classes across Swineshead St Mary's Primary School, but is also introduced in KS1 to promote diversity through taking the register in different languages and greeting children and families using visual and written aids in a range of languages.

Implementation

- Children will be taught in their class groups.
- Each teacher has the responsibility for the planning and teaching of MFL.
- Children will work individually, in pairs and in groups.
- Teachers are responsible for assessing children's work in MFL by making formative and summative assessments throughout the school year.
- Children are encouraged to evaluate their own learning to suggest ways to progress further. This is supported through the use of Knowledge Organisers in their books.

All curriculum areas in our primary curriculum have process knowledge. Disciplinary knowledge is closely linked to our enquiry-based approach to learning. The disciplinary knowledge required in MFL for pupils to become linguists includes Investigation, Expression, Interpretation, Application, Discernment, Analysis, Synthesis and Evaluation.

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Investigation – asking relevant questions about the language; broadening cultural experiences.

Expression – developing accurate pronunciation and intonation; presenting ideas orally.

Interpretation – broadening vocabulary and understanding new words in written material.

Application – making associations between English and French.

Discernment – explaining the significance of culture and accurate understanding of language.

Analysis – distinguishing between opinion, belief, and fact; recognising grammatical forms.

Synthesis – linking significant features of languages together.

Evaluation – holding a conversation in French.

Equal Opportunities

The teaching of MFL follows the school's policy on SEND and differentiation and aims to provide all children with equal opportunities. The school does not discriminate against any pupil on the grounds of disability, sex or race in admissions, curriculum, teaching, behaviour, appearance, or resource allocation. All children are supported and challenged at their own level of development. Our principal aim is that every child achieves the best they can in all aspects of their development during their time at Swineshead St Mary's Primary School.

Role of the MFL Coordinator

- Promote a dynamic approach to the development of MFL and ensure the subject has a high profile.
- Update and administer the school MFL curriculum and oversee its implementation by other staff.
- Keep up to date with developments in the teaching of MFL through reading and attending courses.
- Report back on courses attended and encourage staff to attend appropriate CPD.
- Advise and support staff with MFL teaching.
- Regularly review and update the school policy and guidelines as required.
- Coordinate extra-curricular MFL activities, depending on staffing and pupil interest.

- Represent the school at external meetings in relation to MFL.
- Work closely with the lead governor for MFL.

Signed By: K Beck

Position: MFL Coordinator

Date: September 2025

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