

Wicklewood Primary School and Nursery

Modern Foreign Languages Policy

Rationale

At Wicklewood School, we follow the National Curriculum 2014 and in addition, we believe that all children should have the opportunity to be exposed to other languages and cultures, particularly in our region which is still largely white British ethnicity. We believe that the younger they start learning another language, the easier they find it, and the more the specific language learning skills will become embedded, and that these skills are transferable across the curriculum.

Purpose of Primary Languages

Children should be given opportunities to practise skills in:

- Oracy
- Literacy
- Knowledge about Language
- Intercultural Understanding
- Language Learning Strategies,

as outlined in the Framework for Languages, and which are progressive through the year groups.

These strands are applicable to any modern foreign language, and it is not necessary for there to be continuity of only one language throughout the school.

Broad Guidelines

1. At EYFS and KS1 the emphasis is on Oracy and Language Learning Strategies. In line with the principles of communicative language teaching, the language will be mainly taught through the spoken word, but vocabulary is extended, and where possible, linked to work being carried out in other subject areas. The children will have the opportunity to learn stories, songs and rhymes; to respond to sounds, words, and longer sentences and to recall, retain and use vocabulary. The main language taught at this stage is likely to be French.
2. In year 2, the children begin to learn a language in a more formal setting (currently Spanish) where they will continue to use a range of language learning skills, but songs and rhymes still feature in the delivery and learning of the language. This gives the children a firm grounding ready to move to KS2 where learning will become more formal.
3. At KS2, the full range of skills as outlined above, and in the National Curriculum will be taught according to the framework, so that by the end of Year 6, the children will be able to: use spoken language confidently to initiate and sustain conversations; to read and understand the main points of a short written passage; to use knowledge about language to build sentences and short texts; use language learned in one context, in another context; and to recognise similarities and differences amongst children of different cultures.
4. The languages taught at KS2 are likely to be German, French or Spanish depending on the year group.

Conclusion

Primary Languages provides children opportunities to develop language learning skills in a fun and non-threatening context and also promotes cultural understanding and a sense of national identity within a global society.

This policy directly links/relates to the Teaching and Learning Policy, SEN Information Report and English Policy.