

BURTON BRADSTOCK SCHOOL

Languages Policy

At Burton Bradstock School we deliver a creative curriculum where subjects are taught within a whole school theme, called a Learning Quest, each term. This approach encourages our pupils to use their imagination and make links across topics and subjects thereby giving depth and breadth to their knowledge as well as the ability to learn and apply a range of skills in different contexts.

Introduction

“Learning a foreign language is a liberation from insularity 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.”

National Curriculum 2014

Aims

The curriculum for languages aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources
- 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
- Can write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using a variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt
- Discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied.

Teaching and Planning

At present French is taught in KS2. In KS1, words and phrases may be introduced during Topic work when appropriate.

Our teaching in KS2 is based on the National Curriculum Guidelines for Languages at Key Stage 2. We also use supplementary material collected as a result of in-service training and development by the language team and resources provided by Espresso and Language Angels.

The focus of study in modern languages in the 2014 National Curriculum is on practical communication. Teaching, therefore, will aim to give children as many varied opportunities as possible to communicate in both spoken and written forms.

Teachers use a variety of techniques to encourage the children to have an active engagement with the lessons so that they develop a positive attitude to the learning of a Modern Foreign Language, including the use of finger puppets, games, role play, finger rhymes and action songs. Teachers also use mime to present new vocabulary, as this serves to demonstrate French without the need for translation. Children's confidence is built through praise for any contribution they make, however tentative.

Equal Opportunities

The teaching of Languages is in accordance with the current Equal Opportunities policy and is fully inclusive. Language learning activities are planned in such a way as to encourage the full and active participation of all pupils. Work is differentiated as appropriate to the needs of individual children. Pairs and groups for collaborative work may be made up in different ways, depending on the task. Able children will be given extended activities and challenges.

ICT

ICT will be used in various ways to support teaching and motivate children's learning e.g. use of Espresso, Language Angels, recommended websites, use of microphones to record and listen to pronunciation, listening to stories etc.

Assessment

Teachers assess children's progress informally during the lessons. Assessments are based on observations working on various oral activities and (where appropriate) written tasks. Assessment is formative and is used to support teaching and inform future planning.

Attainment, Progress and Effort are reported annually in the end of year reports to parents/carers.

The Role of the Languages Co-ordinator

- To manage the implementation of the Languages policy.
- To review and update the policy.
- To identify need and arrange INSET so that all staff are confident in how to teach the subject and have sufficient subject knowledge.
- To keep staff aware of new developments through reading relevant materials; attending courses and forums organised by LA, Cluster, Pyramid, MAT or other colleagues.
- To purchase, organise and maintain teaching resources, including schemes of work.
- To support staff in developing pupils' capability.
- To provide guidance and support in implementing NC and schemes of work.
- To advise the Headteacher of action required to develop the subject.

*This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Curriculum Policy and Assessment Policy.

