



# Thistly Meadow Primary School

## LANGUAGES POLICY

Approved by Governors (date) .....

Signed on behalf of the Governing Body .....

Chair of Governors



# LANGUAGES POLICY

## **Rationale**

At Thistly Meadow Primary School we aim to provide a high quality languages education which will foster pupils' curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. Learning another language enables pupils to appreciate other cultures. It will also give them an ability to communicate with others in their own language, both in speech and writing. Language learning at an early age provides the foundation for learning further languages, which will equip pupils to study and work in other countries. All groups of children in school, including LAC, SEND, Disadvantaged/Pupil Premium, G & T, EAL and other vulnerable groups including 'hard to reach' families will have the opportunity to progress and succeed in learning another language. It is our aim at Thistly to achieve at least 40 minutes French/language teaching every week (primarily in KS2).

## **Purpose**

Through French/language teaching at Thistly Meadow Primary School, we aim 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 the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt.
- discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied.

## **Guidelines**

A variety of teaching and learning styles will be used in French/language lessons, including a mixture of whole-class teaching as well as individual and group activities. Children are encouraged to speak in French to each other in a supportive environment and we emphasise the practical use of French by involving the children in role play activities where they practise the language used in everyday situations. Our teaching is based on 'La Jolie Ronde' scheme, which provides resources which can be used by all staff and offers support for those teachers who are less confident in speaking French. The scheme provides examples of native French speakers and encourages an enjoyment of learning the language through games and songs. All staff have access to Interactive Whiteboard resources to support their teaching. The school also has accompanying songs on CD and all resources are saved on the school shared drive. To augment the scheme, we use differentiated worksheets which support the learning in each lesson. Staff also have access to a range of resources to support their teaching, including: French/English dictionaries, French

storybooks, CDs/DVDs of French songs and rhymes, flashcards, posters and games to assist in the teaching of vocabulary and grammar. Resources are stored in the languages cupboard.

### **French in KS2**

Our teaching of French should enable pupils to communicate ideas, facts and feelings in speech and writing, focused on familiar and routine matters, using their knowledge of phonology, grammatical structures and vocabulary. It should lay the foundations for further foreign language teaching at KS3. Our focus will be on practical communication.

Pupils should be taught to:

- listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding.
- explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words.
- engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help.
- speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures
- develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases
- present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences
- read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing
- appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in French
- broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary.
- write phrases from memory and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly.
- describe people, places, things and actions orally and in writing.
- understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied; key features and patterns of the language; how to apply these eg to build sentences; how these differ from or are similar to English.

### **Planning/Assessment/Monitoring and review**

Every Year group uses the scheme 'La Jolie Ronde,' which details the lessons and resources. These are also stored on the shared drive. Assessments are made at the end of the year by the class teacher against age related expectations using the Symphony assessment sheets. All pupils are assessed as either Emerging (B), Expected (S) or Exceeding expectations (S+). It is the responsibility of the languages co-ordinator to gather in class data at the end of the year and work out percentages for classes and cohorts. The languages subject leader, SLT and governors monitor standards and attainment in French based on age expectations. The languages subject leader also supports colleagues in the learning and teaching of French and organises staff INSET and CPD as appropriate. Parents are updated about progress and attainment in French at parents' evenings in the autumn and spring and in the written report at the end of the year.

### **Extra-curricular activities/enrichment**

At Thistly we encourage an enjoyment of learning French and other languages through special events such as whole school French/European Days, where children can work with children in other year groups to develop their language skills and knowledge of the cultures of other countries. We aim to foster links with schools in other countries through e-twinning, so that children may practise their language skills with the practical purpose of communicating with French-speaking children and similarly, we work with our partner school, Greenfield, to create opportunities for the practice of language skills.

Version	Date	Comment
V1	Date created: 29.2.2016 Review date: Feb 2019	A Gordon