



English Martyrs' Catholic Voluntary Academy
Subject Policy
Modern Foreign Languages

“At English Martyrs' Catholic Voluntary Academy, we offer a broad-based curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural and physical development of our pupils and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.”

Our statement of Intent for Modern Foreign Languages (MFL):

The aim of MFL teaching at English Martyrs' is to develop the children's linguistic competence and confidence in speaking, listening, reading and writing. The life-long skill of language learning supports children with communication, and fosters a positive attitude, awareness for and an understanding of other cultures and the globalised world. We encourage our children to follow their curiosity across the curriculum and we seek to give them the opportunity to do so through our WOW days and half-termly phase topics and our driver texts. Such topics include Around the World in 80 Days in Years 3 and 4 and the Rainforest in Years 5 and 6; as well as our school community link in Bunkpurugu, Ghana.

Our English Martyrs' community is privileged to have families from a variety of countries and backgrounds. We aim to promote and celebrate our diversity to give all children the opportunity to be exposed to cultures, languages and ideas that they may not otherwise be exposed to in our locality and diocese.

MFL at Key Stage 2:

In line with the National Curriculum (2014), learning a modern foreign language is a Key Stage 2 statutory entitlement, and at English Martyrs' we are committed to providing quality education through our skills-driven curriculum. We believe that learning to understand, speak, read and write another language during Key Stage 2 will provide the basis for learning other languages, which in turn will provide important opportunities for future study and work in other countries. We currently teach French as our primary MFL.

The Aims of Modern Foreign Languages Teaching:

- Develop an enthusiastic and positive attitude to other languages and language learning;
- Develop linguistic skills, including: understanding and responding to spoken and written language from a various sources; speaking with confidence, fluency and spontaneity and continually improving the accuracy of pronunciation and asking questions; and writing at varying length for different purposes;
- Raise awareness of aspects of their own language and make comparisons with the foreign language, thereby enriching their understanding of both;
- Become aware that language has a structure, and that this structure differs from one language to another;
- Gain enjoyment, pride and a sense of achievement;
- Increase cultural understanding by learning about different countries and their people, communicating with children from other countries;
- Form a sound basis for further language learning at Key Stage 3 and beyond.

Our Implementation of MFL Teaching and Learning:



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English Martyrs' Catholic Voluntary Academy,
Bracken Rd, Long Eaton, Nottingham NG10 4DA
Tel: 0115 973 3209
enquiries@englishmartyrs.derbyshire.sch.uk



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



English Martyrs'

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The teaching and learning of MFL is integrated into our learning challenge curriculum; Long-term and Medium-term plans show the curriculum coverage. We follow a sequential scheme of work to inform our teaching and to ensure the learning is progressional and consistent throughout a child's journey through Key Stage 2. Varying teaching methods are adopted to suit a range of learning styles and resources are provided in order that all children are able to access the learning.

Alongside our statutory teaching, children have access to extra-curricular French lessons from Year 1 onwards. Our external French teacher liaises with our Subject leader to ensure the curriculum is always building on prior learning.

The subject leader has also identified new knowledge or "sticky knowledge" which must be purposefully taught and learnt. Short Term plans are produced by class teachers on a fortnightly basis for the teaching of French.

Our Impact in MFL:

We are developing and assessing the impact of our MFL teaching and learning alongside all of our foundation subjects. We aim for our children to leave English Martyrs' with a metacognitive awareness of language learning; a basic understanding of linguistic structure; and to develop their confidence in speaking, listening, reading and writing. Pupils can articulate their knowledge and understanding of French in a clear and consistent manner, appropriate for their age, and are clear on the relevance and importance of language learning. This is evident consistently in their work produced.

Termly book scrutiny by the subject leader ensures that all pupils are making consistent yearly progress in MFL, and that teachers correctly identify those children exceeding the expectations of the year group.

Assessment in MFL:

MFL is assessed using teacher judgements through observation of children's involvement and their produced outcome in lessons. Teachers make an assessment of the children's progression in alignment with the outcomes of the National Curriculum for their specific Key Stage and Year Group/s and highlight the child's skills sheet accordingly. This skills sheet then becomes a working record of the child's achievements and progress to date.

Monitoring and Review:

Under the SLT, the Subject Leader will regularly monitor children's work and of the quality of teaching and learning in MFL. The role of the subject leader involves supporting colleagues, being informed about current developments in the subject, and providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in the school. Monitoring will be carried out through:

- Learning walks
- Book scrutinies
- Environment checks (displays, skills boards etc.)
- Pupil voice meetings
- Staff interviews/questionnaires

Policy written by: Max Copeland - November 2019

Reviewed by:



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