



Guidance for Modern Foreign Languages (Whole School including EYFS)

The MFL policy at Avon House Preparatory School is designed to reflect the primary MFL entitlement as defined in the MFL Scheme of Work. The key elements are:

- it is inclusive
- it is taught as a coherent programme from EYFS to Year 6
- it is part of a broader curriculum involving language and culture
- it is available to our EYFS pupils from the Spring term

Rationale

The skills, knowledge and understanding gained through learning a new language make a major contribution to the development of children's oracy and literacy and to their understanding of their own culture and those of others. As a Rights Respecting School, Avon House recognises that language also lies at the heart of ideas about individual identity and community, and learning another language can do a great deal to shape children's ideas in this area as well as giving them a new perspective on their own language. Avon House also promotes the idea that providing education in language and culture will give the pupils more opportunities to develop in today's broader multicultural society, not just through their educational journeys, but also when they enter the working world.

Aims and Objectives

Language teaching at Avon House aims to provide opportunities for the pupils to:

- 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
- express themselves creatively and imaginatively in another language
- apply and develop their knowledge of languages and language learning across all subjects
- be given the tools they need in order to explore, investigate and share their findings as independent language learners
- gain enjoyment, pride and a sense of achievement by adopting a 'have a go' attitude to language learning within the classroom and during educational visits and trips

Current Provision and Staffing

- Spanish is the principal language taught throughout the school, with French as an additional language in the Prep Dept.
- Once the EYFS staff consider the pupils in F1 are ready to start learning Spanish, the class will receive a 20 minute session of Spanish each week. Typically, this will be arranged for the spring term.
- In F2 and Year 1 the pupils continue to learn Spanish, having a 30 minute lesson each week.
- In Year 2 pupils will be accessing a 50 minute lesson of Spanish once a week.
- All pupils from Year 3 to Year 6 will have access to a 50 minute lesson of Spanish and French each week.
- The French and Spanish lessons are delivered by the MFL co-ordinator and language teachers.

Planning

On each plan, teachers will include relevant RRS Articles where possible and the Classroom Monitor 'I Can' statements. Planning will follow the MFL scheme of work.

Our programme covers:

- aspects of literacy such as speaking and listening skills, knowledge and understanding of grammatical structures and sentence construction
- aspects of numeracy such as counting, calculations, money, the time and the date
- aspects of music such as learning traditional and modern French/Spanish songs
- aspects of PSHE such as international or multicultural work, for example celebration of festivals and story telling
- aspects of ICT, for example materials from the internet and interactive DVDs
- aspects of the geography and history of France/Spain
- aspects of cultural appreciation and comparisons between Hispanophone and Francophone countries and the UK.

Inclusion

The provision of MFL at Avon House is inclusive and aims to provide equality of opportunity for all pupils. Pupils for whom English is a second or additional language contribute to the cultural understanding of their fellow pupils and are encouraged to take pride in, and develop their existing language skills. Please refer to the 'EAL Policy' for further information.

Pedagogy

At Avon House Preparatory School, there is an emphasis on the importance of communication in the language – real language use – as a central component of learning.



This is achieved by:

- providing enjoyment and stimulation through games, songs, role-play and stories
- supporting learning through regular and familiar routines
- making use of and developing communication strategies, including the use of ICT
- ensuring opportunities for pupils to interact with the target language
- exposure to the new language in order to assimilate new sound patterns and to relate them to words and meanings.

Schemes of work

Language learning at Avon House follows the MFL Scheme of work which is reviewed and adapted annually. The scheme is based upon the five mutually supportive and dependent strands outlined in the Primary Languages Framework and the objectives of the National Curriculum.

All these strands are woven into the planned units of work. Care is taken to revisit topics so as to constantly reinforce what has been previously learnt.

Resources

- JMB Education Spanish
- Spanish Speekee
- La Jolie Ronde
- Additional online resources and textbooks

Assessment

At Avon House Preparatory School, the pupils are informally assessed throughout the year, with great emphasis placed on their ability to communicate in the chosen foreign language. The children in the Prep School will regularly complete end of unit assessments to track their progress within a topic. This will usually take place as a class quiz, a Kahoot quiz or at times a short test paper.

Reviewed September 2018 DJ/CB

Reviewed June 2019 GE

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