

 <p>Offley Endowed Primary School &amp; Nursery</p>	<h1>Offley Endowed Primary School and Nursery</h1>	<p>Reviewed: Feb 2024 Next Review: Feb 2026</p>
<p><b>Policy Title:</b></p>	<h2>Foreign Languages Policy</h2>	<p>Users: Staff, Governors, Parents</p>

### **Introduction**

At Offley Endowed Primary School we believe that learning a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for pupils. It helps them to develop communication skills and extends their knowledge of how language works. Learning another language also gives children a new perspective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own culture and those of others and equipping them to study and work in other countries.

### **Intent**

The teaching of languages falls under the school's general curriculum intent. We aim to enable pupils to:

- develop an enthusiasm for learning languages, becoming aware of the benefits of understanding and speaking different languages
- communicate in other languages by speaking, listening, reading and writing
- develop curiosity about language and become creative in experimenting with it
- explore and respect their own cultural identities by contrasting them with those of others
- lay the foundations for future language study, developing 'language learning strategies' that can be applied to the learning of any language
- develop the ability to recognise rules or patterns in a new language and relate it to their existing understanding of their own and other languages
- show an awareness of the similarities and differences between people and appreciate the diversity of languages spoken within the school
- become involved in the development of links with other countries

### **Implementation**

#### **Planning and resources**

Foreign language learning is planned in accordance with the guidelines set out in Curriculum 2014 (DfE) programme of study. It is taught through a range of topics, enabling related vocabulary to be learned in a meaningful way. The planning ensures that there is continuity and progression in skills and content across Key stage 2. Resources include interactive programmes, texts and CDs. There is also a foreign language section in the school library.

Foreign language lessons include teaching and learning about other cultures, such as Easter in France. Many areas of the curriculum, including PSHCE, Computing, PE, Geography, History, RE, Music, Art and Dance, may include further learning about other languages and cultures. We also integrate language learning into everyday school life, with teachers, teaching assistants and children using and experimenting with their knowledge of different languages when the opportunity arises. Technology is widely used in the teaching of foreign languages. The school uses a variety of software, the internet and video messaging programs, together with videos and audio recordings. There is an emphasis on having fun with the new language.

#### **Language lessons**

Although foreign language teaching may take place across the curriculum, pupils in Key Stage 2 are taught specific skills, concepts and vocabulary in a weekly timetabled French lesson.

There are two main aspects of language teaching and learning:

<i>Approved and Adopted by Governing Body</i>
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## **Foreign Languages Policy**

### **1 Oracy** (listening, speaking and spoken interaction)

Pupils learn to:

- Listen carefully and recognise sounds and combinations of sounds from a variety of authentic sources which are similar to, or different from, those of English
- Understand and respond with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity in a range of situations; where possible, we aim for pupils to 'learn, immerse, communicate'
- Join in with songs, rhymes and stories which enable them to practise the sounds of the language, developing pronunciation and intonation
- Take part in conversations at an appropriate level, reacting to instructions and questions and expressing opinions and feelings

### **2 Literacy** (reading and writing)

Pupils learn to:

- Remember grapheme-phoneme correspondences and vocabulary directly taught and reinforced through word games and similar activities
- Understand basic grammar, including feminine and masculine forms and the conjugation of high frequency verbs
- Read stories and rhymes for enjoyment and to gain awareness of the structure of the written language, discovering and developing an appreciation of a range of writing in the language
- Read, copy and write independently familiar words and simple phrases in context, including through use of a dictionary
- Write sentences and texts of varying lengths, independently and from memory or based on a model

### **Intercultural understanding**

"Learning another language is a liberation from insularity and provides an opening to other cultures" (DfE Languages programme of study, 2013). Children develop a greater understanding of their own culture in the context of exploring the cultures of others and learn to look at things from another's perspective and become more aware of similarities and differences between peoples, their daily lives, beliefs and values.

Pupils learn to:

- Describe the life of children in the countries where the language is spoken
- Identify similarities and differences in everyday life, social conventions, traditional stories and celebrations
- Recognise how symbols, products and objects can represent the culture of a country, and how aspects of the culture of different countries become incorporated in the daily life of others
- Recognise and mistrust stereotypes, and understand and respect cultural diversity

### **Entitlement and Equal Opportunities**

We promote the needs and interests of all pupils irrespective of ethnicity, gender or ability. Teaching strategies take into account the ability, age, readiness and cultural backgrounds of the students to ensure that all can access the full foreign languages provision. We expect our pupils to show a high regard for the needs of others. Foreign languages lessons are a good vehicle for addressing multi-cultural issues and ensuring equal opportunities for all and is planned and delivered in accordance with our Equality Scheme, School Vision, Christian Values and Teaching and Learning Policy.

### **Inclusion**

Foreign language teaching at Offley School is fully inclusive. Research has shown that SEND pupils can derive particular benefit from taking part in foreign language learning activities in which they may be less disadvantaged than in other areas of the curriculum. The 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.



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### **International Links/Cultural Awareness**

We are twinned with Ecole Jacquemin in Thomery, France. Year 6 video message with, write to and receive letters from pupils there. We also hold a 'languages and cultures week' biennially, during which pupils, staff and governors and their relatives visit classes and talk to pupils about their languages and cultures. Both projects present opportunities to develop and further embed intercultural awareness and language learning.

### **Impact**

#### **Monitoring progress and assessing attainment**

To assess pupils' progress we gather evidence of what individual pupils know, understand and can do by observing them, listening to them and discussing with them and evaluating work they produce. Pupils are assessed formatively each term in accordance with the school's Foundation Assessment system.

#### **To monitor, evaluate and develop the subject the foreign languages subject leader:**

- attends CPD in order to integrate developments in foreign language teaching, including termly update meetings held by the Herts for Learning Languages Consultant
- regularly reviews and updates the policy, the programme of study and the progression in skills document
- develops assessment and record keeping to ensure progression and consistency
- works co-operatively with the SENDCo to ensure inclusion of all pupils
- reviews resource provision
- discusses regularly with the Headteacher and link governor the progress of the intent, implementation and impact of foreign language teaching and learning.

#### **Links outside school: governors, parents and the wider community**

Primary Languages gives us an ideal opportunity for making links outside school. We encourage children to share their experiences of visiting or living in other countries. We also make full use of technology links via email and approved sites on the Internet to find out about life in other countries.

February 2024

To be reviewed 2026