



Modern Foreign Languages Policy

“Learning other languages enables children and young people to make connections with different people and their cultures and to play a fuller part as global citizens.”

Building the Curriculum 1

Rationale

- The curriculum is enhanced by an awareness of different cultures and an introduction to a foreign language is an effective starting point for this.
- There is evidence that a positive start in learning a foreign language means deeper and more lasting learning.
- The development of foreign language skills in primary schools is part of a progressive line of development in language for pupils throughout their education.

Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of learning a Modern Foreign Language in primary school are to:

- foster an interest in learning other languages;
- introduce young children to another language in a way that is enjoyable and fun;
- stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language;
- encourage children to be aware that language has structure and that the structure has similarities and differences from one language to another;
- help the children develop awareness of and positive attitudes to cultural differences in other countries;
- develop their speaking, listening, reading and writing skills;
- develop confidence in the pupils, fostering a risk-taking attitude towards language;
- develop skills and strategies for future study;
- teach pupils to use the foreign language for real purposes;
- extend language teaching beyond first language learning.

The children are taught how to:

- ask and answer questions;

- use correct pronunciation and grammar;
- memorise words;
- interpret meaning;
- understand basic grammar;
- use dictionaries;
- work in pairs and groups and communicate in French;
- look at life in another culture

Methodology and Organisation

- The foreign language may be introduced through storytelling, songs, games or drama to encourage active use and enjoyment of the language.
- Differentiation may take place through ability-linked tasks, degree of support and expectation.
- Planning, recording, assessing and reporting should be in line with the school's policy documents on the curriculum.
- Pupils in Primary 1 to Primary 5 will learn either Spanish or French.
- In Primary 6 and 7 the pupils will concentrate on French in accordance with Cluster guidelines.

Curriculum, Continuity and Progression

The school programmes for French and Spanish are based on the Curriculum for Excellence Guidelines for Modern Languages in the Primary School ensuring:

- Challenge and enjoyment
- Breadth
- Depth
- Personalisation and choice
- Coherence
- Relevance

Using a variety of resources in accordance with Aberdeenshire guidelines, and as agreed with the Modern Language Department at Banff Academy, the following topics are undertaken by pupils across the school with a particular focus on French in Primary 6 and Primary 7.

Monitoring and Review

The Modern Languages policy will be reviewed regularly.