



## Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

*MFL at St Paul's builds on children's natural instinct to wonder about and explore the world around them, helping them to flourish in their journey to the fullness of life.*



### Our Vision for MFL

Inspired by God's love for us, we illuminate the goodness in others, we care for and protect His children and reach out to help others flourish in their journey to the fullness of life. The study of Modern Foreign languages at St Paul's helps to foster children's curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. At St Paul's we are committed to ensuring that competence in another language enables children to interpret, create and exchange meaning within and across cultures. It also helps children develop skills that will open further opportunities later in life. The teaching of French in KS2 provides an appropriate balance of the 3 strands; phonics, vocabulary and grammar. Our scheme, KAPOW ensures that all three strands of knowledge are applied in KS2 through both Language Comprehension (Listening and Reading) and Language Production (Speaking and Writing). At KS1 the teaching of MFL will be introduced in a cross curricular, experience-based way with the aim of familiarising children with a range of different languages and cultures.

We want our children to be able to establish the basic skills to be able to communicate in French by the end of Year Six. We want children to enjoy and love learning French by gaining the knowledge and skills, not just through experiences in the classroom, but also through fun and engaging experiences throughout their time at school. In this way, pupils will leave St Paul's not only prepared for learning languages at KS3, but with a love of languages that lasts their whole lives.

### Rationale – Why we do what we do...

At St Paul's we aim to provide an opening to other cultures, foster curiosity and deepen an understanding of the world. We want our pupils to enjoy the opportunity to learn a new language through a range of activities, giving them the inspiration to develop an interest in exploring the world and embracing modern foreign languages as they grow. We wish for our wide-range of cultures at St Paul's to also be recognised and respected by all.

### How do we enable children to learn more and retain more?

#### Timings and timetable:

MFL at St Paul's is primarily taught through French lessons in KS2. In these lessons, French is taught by:

- teaching skills through listening, speaking, reading, writing and developing cultural understanding
- giving opportunities to respond to spoken and written language
- encouraging and enabling pupils to speak with increasing confidence and spontaneity
- introducing common language through classroom routines, songs, games, listening, reading and writing.

#### MFL– An Overview:

At St Paul's we believe that learning a foreign language is a vital part of children's education as languages are part of the cultural richness of our society and the world in which we live and work. Therefore, through the teaching of MFL at both KS1 and KS2, we aim to enrich our pupils' experiences and broaden their knowledge and understanding of the world around them and their place in it. We also aim to give our children an insight into how other people around the world live, including their celebrations, traditional food and music, causing them to nurture a growing appreciation of other cultures and a natural curiosity for the world around them as they learn. We strive to inspire our pupils to embrace diversity and to help create a world in which they can live in harmony with other cultures, creating inquisitive, tolerant and understanding minds of the future.

In Reception, they do not follow our KAPOW scheme, but instead meet these criteria by working towards their early learning goal 'People, Culture and Communities' where they look at their own immediate environments, make comparisons between their own religious cultures and others and the differences between life in the UK compared to other countries. This is achieved through observations, discussions, stories, non-fiction text exposure and maps. In Years 1 and 2, MFL is threaded through other topics such as 'Africa' in Year 2 Geography where they look at some words and its culture. Year 1 also have lots of stories from other cultures in their library and classroom reading spaces, as well as making comparisons such as different types of houses around the world or looking at animals they may find in different countries, giving them the opportunity to explore these cultures and acknowledge that there are other languages spoken and ways of life around the world.

In ensuring high standards of teaching and learning in MFL, we implement a curriculum using the KAPOW scheme. This is progressive throughout the whole school. French is taught as part of half-termly topics from Years 3-6, focusing on specific vocabulary relevant to that topic, and knowledge and skills stated in the National Curriculum. Progression of these are clearly outlined in our KAPOW scheme, whereby exposure of some words and phrases adapts to looking at full sentences and ranges of passages as they move further up the school. This can be seen in reading, writing and speaking evidence.

At St Paul's, we vary our teaching to cater for all learning styles and all needs by teaching and reinforcing prior knowledge. We also make use of a range of different types of activities and group types including paired and group work in order to cater for all styles of learning. Through our scheme, KAPOW, the learning needs of all can be met through tailored activities, suggested games and CPD videos to support our Teaching staff in being able to confidently deliver and adapt as they go.

### Assessing Outcomes in MFL

Throughout their education at St Paul's, our pupils should show an increasing confidence in their ability to speak, read and write in French. By the time they leave St Paul's, they should be able to understand the main points from a short-spoken passage and take part in simple conversations. They should be able to express an opinion, pronounce vocabulary more accurately and be easily understood and understand the main points of a short-written text. They should also be able to write a short text on a topic, adapting vocabulary and phrases already learnt and begin to understand more complex issues which affect countries in the world today for example poverty, famine, religion and war. In this way our pupils will leave St Paul's prepared to learn languages at KS3 and beyond, and have an understanding and respect for other cultures.

In Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, progress in MFL is not formally assessed, but whole class experiences and opportunism relating to MFL will be recorded in class learning journeys and other related topic books. In Reception and Year 1 these will also be put on children's personalised 'Learning Journey's' using Tapestry which is used to record learning from all areas of learning across the year. In KS2, pupils complete regular progress pauses within each unit that are taken from KAPOW. All Teachers use this evidence to ensure that all children are making progress and attaining well in all subjects, as well as adapt their lessons as a result. A tracking sheet is completed termly by Class Teachers to monitor progress that is taken directly from KAPOW and is tailored to each individual year groups learning objectives.

The MFL subject leader completes regular monitoring of attainment and progress through a combination of pupil voice, book monitoring and matching actual outcomes to intended outcomes as identified in the 'Languages programmes of study: Key Stage 2 National curriculum in England' document. From this monitoring, key actions are given to the teacher and are re-visited frequently. The MFL subject leader then leads staff meetings for all Teachers to go through updates and feedback to ensure everyone is adhering to the same level of practise. These are in addition to the Pupil Progress Meetings that identify and celebrate pupil progress and set agreed targets for narrowing any gaps in knowledge and skills.

#### **Enrichment**

Class Teachers and support staff at St. Paul's try to integrate spoken and written French into other areas of the school day through counting, greetings and displays that can be seen around the school, such as in the canteen and library. We are also looking into the possibility of having a French partner school in the future to present us with some opportunities to speak with someone who is fluent, learn about their way of life and language and exchange letters. We recognise that there are a range of languages and cultures within our school and wish for these to be celebrated and recognised. Speech bubbles where children can record greetings have been used to promote this, and we are looking at creating a day full of activities for World Languages Day in March 2024. We hope that being able to celebrate the rich cultural diversity of our school community and involving families in more MFL events and lessons helps children to feel and give respect to all.

