LAUGHTON ALL SAINTS' FRENCH RATIONALE



Laughton All Saints' aims to offer a relevant, broad, vibrant and ambitious foreign languages curriculum that will inspire and excite our pupils using a wide variety of topics and themes. All pupils will be expected to achieve their full potential by encouraging high expectations and excellent standards in their foreign language learning - the ultimate aim being that pupils will feel willing and able to continue studying languages beyond key stage 2.

The four key language learning skills; listening, speaking, reading and writing are taught and all necessary grammar is covered in an age-appropriate way across the KS2 phase. Pupils can use and apply their learning in a variety of contexts, laying down solid foundations for future language learning and also helping the children improve overall attainment in other subject areas.

As they move through our curriclum, they will progressively acquire, use and apply a growing bank of vocabulary, language skills and grammatical knowledge organised around age-appropriate topics and themes - building blocks of language into more complex, fluent and authentic language.

Children at Laughton begin their journey of learning French in Y3. The first steps in learning are speaking and listening to single words - basic salutations, colours and shapes - along with a focus on accurate pronunciation and the ability to read written versions of what the children hear. As the children move through lower key stage 2, this then moves on to combining these single words into short phrases, recognising familiar words and beginning to apply their phonic knowledge to read unfamiliar words. This applies to content around 'I am learning...', musical instruments and fruits and vegetables. Throughout Y4, knowledge builds to reading short texts and writing short phrases with their gained knowledge.

As the children move through upper key stage two, they will be exposed to topics such as pets, clothes, dates, hobbies and the world around them. They will speak with about a wider range of topics and themes, remembering and recalling a range of vocabulary with increased knowledge, confidence and spontaneity. They will be given opportunity to engage in short conversations on familiar topics, responding with opinions and justifications where appropriate. They will develop their skills in writing longer paragraphs of text, including accurate grammar knowledge, as well as an appreciation for varied accents within French.

Pupils will continuously build on their previous knowledge as they progress in their foreign language learning journey through the primary phase. Previous language will be recycled, revised, recalled and consolidated whenever possible and appropriate.

As well as our curriculum progressing from Y3-Y6, the individual units of teaching French are progressive within themselves. Subsequent lessons within a unit build on the language and knowledge taught in previous lessons and as pupils progress though the lessons in a unit they will build their knowledge and develop the complexity of the language they use. We think of the progression within the 6 lessons in a unit as 'Language Lego'. We provide blocks of language knowledge and, over the course of a 6-week unit, encourage pupils to build more complex and sophisticated language structures with their blocks of language knowledge.

We want all pupils to develop a genuine interest and positive curiosity about foreign languages, finding them enjoyable and stimulating. Learning a second language will also offer pupils the opportunity to explore relationships between language and identity, develop a deeper understanding of other cultures and the world around them with a better awareness of self, others and cultural differences.