

Modern Foreign Languages at Baldwins Gate

Intent:

At Baldwins Gate Primary School, we want to develop the teaching and learning of French across Key Stage Two in a fun way, preparing children for opportunities in French speaking countries and to become confident global citizens.

We believe that the learning of a language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our pupils. It helps them to develop communication skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing, with an aim of making substantial progress in one language. In addition, children's knowledge of how language works will be developed to lay the foundations for further language learning in future.

We believe that learning another language gives children a new and broader perspective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own cultures and those of others.

Aims:

The national curriculum for languages aims to ensure that all pupils:

- 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.

Implementation

At Baldwins Gate we have chosen to French as our modern foreign language as, as our subject leader is a fluent French speaker. This helps to ensure that the pupils hear and are taught the correct pronunciation and can be immersed in fluent French speaking.

Our French curriculum allows pupils to:

- listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding
- explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words
- engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help
- speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures
- develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases

- present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences
- read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing
- appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language
- broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary
- write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly
- describe people, places, things and actions orally and in writing
- understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied, including (where relevant): feminine, masculine and neuter forms and the conjugation of high-frequency verbs; key features and patterns of the language; how to apply these, for instance, to build sentences; and how these differ from or are similar to English.

Our French curriculum is designed to progressively develop children's skills in languages, through regular taught lessons. In key stage two all classes have a weekly 45-minute French lesson. Children progressively acquire, use and apply a growing bank of vocabulary organised around topics. All of these approaches help to equip our children with the skills to be confident global citizens. We make links with schools in France, giving the children an opportunity to write in French and read the letters that are sent in return, allowing the children to practice their French reading and writing skills in a meaningful way. We also run live 'meets' online where the children can take part in question-and-answer sessions with pupils in a French school, allowing them to practise their French speaking in a meaningful way.

The teaching of French is delivered solely by a subject leader. The children receive verbal feedback in all lessons. The children's progress is assessed using 'Classroom Monitor' our online tracking system.

Impact

Our French curriculum will ensure all pupils develop key language learning skills, as set out by the National Curriculum, as well as a love of languages and learning about other cultures.