



MFL Curriculum Intent Statement



At Westacre Middle School, we aim to foster a life-long love of learning, through adopting a practical and cross-curricular approach. Our Creative Curriculum aims to deliver a world class education that will equip our children with the skills required to be independent and responsible citizens. The curriculum matches our whole school vision, which fosters an atmosphere of inspiration, challenge and achievement. “Inspire. Challenge. Achieve”

Why do we teach Modern Foreign Languages?

Languages are part of the cultural richness of our society and the world in which we live and work. Learning languages helps us to develop a mutual understanding and appreciation of other cultures, communities and people and learning a language is key.

Learning languages gives pupils opportunities to develop their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills and to express themselves with increasing confidence, independence and creativity. They explore the similarities and differences between other languages and English and learn how language can be manipulated and applied in different ways. This also links to our 6Rs approach as language learning helps pupils to be responsible, resilient, ready, reflective, reasoned and resourceful learners.

Key Concepts in MFL

Key concepts tie together the subject topics into meaningful schema within our skills progression maps. The same concepts are explored in a wide breadth of topics across all year groups. Through this ‘forwards-and-backwards engineering’ of the curriculum, students return to the same concepts over and over and gradually build understanding of them.

In MFL, the key concepts are Oracy, Literacy and Global Awareness.

Knowledge Categories in MFL

Knowledge categories in each subject give students a way of expressing their understanding of the key concepts and linking their learning across the year groups.

In MFL, the knowledge categories are:

- Oracy: listening, speaking and memory
- Literacy: reading, memory and writing
- Global awareness: diversity, inspirational people and careers

SMSC Links

Modern Foreign Languages aims to expose pupils to a different language, culture and people. It allows pupils to make comparisons with their own lives and see the similarities and differences and allow us to celebrate the diversity in the world and equally realise that there is much we have in common. Learning a different language to your native tongue opens the door to amazing opportunities for the pupils to travel and communicate with others, regardless of their background.

Spiritual: Helps pupils to reflect on their way of life in Droitwich and England and compare it to others in France. It creates a sense of wonder in exploring France and the world in general. They use creativity in applying the language in new ways and feel a sense of achievement in doing so.

Moral: Helps pupils to consider that opinions and daily life in France can differ from their own. It makes them question equality in the use of gender in a Latin language such as French and reflect on what this means for France as a country today.

Social: Helps pupils to develop social skills to work with others in pair or group work using unfamiliar vocabulary where they may feel out of their comfort zone. It creates a willingness to participate in lessons and to have a go at using an unfamiliar language and inspires others to follow as a community. It helps pupils to communicate with each other as well as those in a different language.

Cultural: Helps pupils to appreciate the diversity in the world. Pupils consider how the English language and their heritage has been influenced by France and vice versa. It allows pupils to compare values and attitudes with France and teaches pupils to be more respectful and tolerant of others.

Curriculum Drivers

How we promote Aspirations in MFL: Aspirations are promoted through the exploration of different careers within MFL. Links are made between topics and careers within lessons and are presented on the knowledge webs. Children are given opportunities to research different careers and inspirational people with close links to France. In Year 5, children find out about language teachers. In Year 6, children research careers in the fashion industry, food industry and Translating and Publishing. In Year 7, the focus is on travel and tourism. Children are encouraged to look not only at careers involving MFL but also those linked to the topics they have studied.

How we promote Communication in MFL: Communication is an integral part of language learning. It is essential that children have opportunities to listen to and to practise speaking French. Children are encouraged to develop and broaden their vocabulary in French. In each lesson there are opportunities to practise their speaking and listening skills, share ideas with others and to develop their knowledge of the French language in order to be able to create increasingly complex phrases and sentences that will enable them to communicate with French language speakers.

How we promote Diversity in MFL: Diversity is promoted through the exploration of a different language, culture and people. Children are given opportunities to make comparisons between their own lives and those of people in French speaking countries. They are encouraged to look for differences but also similarities between their lives and their own language and French. They learn to identify cognates and see links between English and French.