



Intent

Modern Foreign Languages at Churchstanton Primary School

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

At Churchstanton, we believe that a high-quality languages education should foster children's curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. We are committed to ensuring that competence in another language enables children to interpret, create and exchange meaning within and across cultures. As a rural school, we believe that exposure to other languages and cultures is particularly important to promote diversity and intercultural understanding. This will also help children develop skills that will open further opportunities later in life. We feel that the teaching of German in KS2 provides an appropriate balance of spoken and written language and lays the foundations for further foreign language teaching at KS3.

Implementation

At Churchstanton, children begin their foreign language learning journey at the start of KS2, with weekly German lessons lasting around an hour. Within this time, they are given opportunities to develop their speaking, listening, reading and writing skills, through a wide variety of activities such as singing, rhyming, games, vocabulary practice and role-play.

Children are encouraged to build up their understanding of the German language, its grammar and pronunciation and to accumulate an ever-growing bank of vocabulary, which will embed and expand as they progress across the Key Stage.

Within their learning of a foreign language, we also highlight similarities or differences to the English language and its grammatical structures, reinforcing terminology and supporting them as language learners in general.

In LKS2, children will cover a range of themes including:

- *General greetings and classroom instructions, numbers, days, months, numbers, colours, hobbies, likes/dislikes, toys, animals and families*

In UKS2, children may revisit these topics to deepen their knowledge but also cover the following:

- *Telling the time, body parts, professions, making conversation, taking part in role-plays, letter writing, giving opinions and talking in the past tense*

An extremely important part of our learning is intercultural understanding. In order to give the children a purposeful insight into life in modern Germany, we therefore cover a range of topics including:

- Festivals/Significant events, such as Christmas, Easter and Carnival
- Traditional food and drink
- German arts and crafts
- Daily life, including school life and routines
- Popular sports
- Film
- German songs/nursery rhymes
- Access to a collection of real-life material from Germany (books, games, magazines etc)

Impact

The unique MFL provision we offer at Churchstanton impacts our pupils by allowing them to become confident, inquisitive language learners and ambitious global citizens of this world.

We teach a rich and varied range of topics to enable them to build up their vocabulary and language skills, whilst also promoting the importance of diversity, acceptance and the cultural differences between our two countries.

Importantly, our children have access to real-world materials from Germany, giving their learning more purpose and meaning and also nurturing their interest in foreign languages for their future.

Children are given regular opportunities to share their language learning, both in lesson time and in front of the whole school community.

Much of our early learning is verbal, engaging pupils through songs and games, and allowing the teacher to individually assess their progress throughout the term and tailor further questioning to fit each child.

We also monitor the impact of our MFL provision using half-termly peer assessment sessions in class. Children have the opportunity to recap everything they have covered each half term and then assess each other on how much they know.