Northway Infant & Carrant Brook Junior Schools

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MFL Intent, Implementation and Impact

Intent & Implementation

It is our intent at Northway Infants and Carrant Brook Junior School to provide all of our children with a high-quality education in Modern Foreign Languages. Our pupils develop a love of learning for the French language and culture, helping them to understand the wider world. We build on the children's cultural capital so that their knowledge of the richness and diversity between cultures increases. As part of *Two Schools, One Community*, we create ambitious opportunities for all children, including those who are disadvantaged, have SEND, or face social and communication barriers. When children leave Carrant Brook, they will have the confidence to explore other countries, cultures and languages with curiosity and ambition. In a multilingual society, the ability to communicate effectively with others is a valuable skill. By the end of their primary journey, children will be engaged, resilient learners prepared to continue their language learning at Secondary School and beyond.

Pupils are taught knowledge and understanding through a coherent and sequenced curriculum, implemented in line with intentions, enabling them to achieve their full potential in this subject. We ensure that health and well-being are considered alongside academic progress, recognising the importance of language learning in developing confidence, self-esteem and curiosity. Through carefully planned teaching, pupils gain the knowledge to achieve and thrive, while also building skills incrementally. At Northway Infants, children are introduced to French through an extra-curriculum club, which gives them early exposure to language learning in a fun, engaging way. This opportunity helps lay the strong foundations for future learning. In Lower KS2, children acquire the strong foundations of basic skills and understanding of French with a particular emphasis on speaking and listening skills, including phonics awareness. These will be embedded and further extended in Upper KS2, where pupils progress onto more complex language concepts and greater learner autonomy.

Community Connections

We extend French learning beyond the classroom through links with the local and wider community. Pupils benefit from opportunities to attend French cooking and tasting events and celebrations of Bastille Day or the European Day of Languages. Children are encouraged to share their language skills by reading stories, performing songs or poems. These experiences develop confidence, cultural awareness and a lifelong interest in learning French.

Enrichment and Cultural Capital

Learning a language is not just about gaining language skills: it gives children the opportunity to explore other countries, cultures, and people. Our curriculum is enriched with authentic French texts, opportunities to hear native speakers and experiences of how Francophone countries celebrate and live.

Through enrichment such as themed days, songs, storytelling and drama, pupils gain meaningful experiences that build their cultural capital and deepen their understanding of diversity. These opportunities are especially valuable for disadvantaged pupils and those with SEND or social and communication barriers, providing inclusive and engaging ways to access learning.

Within *Two Schools, One Community*, enrichment is strengthened through joint events and shared celebrations, giving children continuity, wider experiences and strong foundations for future learning.

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Safe – the classroom is a safe space to learn a language. Everyone makes mistakes and this is a normal part of the learning process. Children have plenty of opportunities to explore and practise their topic vocabulary.

Happy – learning languages should be fun! Children experience creative French lessons with fun outcomes, leading to happy and motivated learners.

Independent – the progressive curriculum is designed so that children revisit previously learned vocabulary and language skills, meaning they gain confidence and independence when applying these.

Never give up – learning a language can be challenging. We are resilient learners who make mistakes and learn together.

Excel to be the best that you can be – the French curriculum is intertwined with lots of other subjects, so every child can be successful (e.g. artistic outcomes, applying maths skills - currency, singing, map work).

Two Schools One Community Opportunities

Each unit of learning includes a suggested outcome, giving children the chance to showcase their knowledge and create something they can be proud of. These outcomes are shared and celebrated across the schools, strengthening a sense of community and achievement. At Northway Infants, pupils are introduced to French through a language club, which builds early awareness and enthusiasm for learning languages. As children progress into Carrant Brook, this foundation is developed further, creating continuity and progression. Whole-school events, such as a joint celebration of the European Day of Languages, or Bastille Day, provide opportunities for pupils from both schools to come together, celebrate languages and culture, and strengthen their shared identity as part of *Two Schools, One Community*.

Impact

Through learning French, children at Carrant Brook will develop the ability to read, write, speak, and understand spoken language with increasing confidence. They will recognise that French has different phonics to English and apply this knowledge to improve their pronunciation. Pupils will also build their cultural capital, gaining awareness of France and other Francophone countries, understanding that France uses a different currency, and recognising key differences in language conventions such as the use of capital letters. Enrichment experiences, such as learning and performing a French Christmas song, will further deepen their cultural understanding and enjoyment of language learning.

British Values

- ✓ **Democracy** - learning French gives pupils access to different perspectives, cultures and histories. Discussions about French society, politics and traditions allow students to compare and appreciate democratic values across countries.
- ✓ **Mutual Respect** – pupils encounter different beliefs, traditions and lifestyles, which fosters respect for diversity.
- ✓ **Tolerance** – gaining of cultural capital and intercultural understanding increases children's awareness of life in other countries and differences between nations/cultures. Language learning builds empathy, breaks down stereotypes and encourages tolerance.
- ✓ **The Rule of Law** – learn about how rules, laws and customs shape everyday life in France (e.g., school routines, citizenship, social norms). How is this different to the UK?
- ✓ **Individual Liberty** – empowers pupils to express themselves, make choices in communication and access wider opportunities (e.g. travel)

What retention may be demonstrated?

The progressive curriculum is carefully designed so that children revisit and build on previously learned vocabulary and language skills. This deliberate reinforcement supports long-term retention, enabling pupils to confidently recall and apply their knowledge in new contexts. As a result, children are empowered to use French independently, demonstrating growing fluency, accuracy and confidence throughout their learning journey.