

Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural Development (SMSC) in

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

AIMS:

In Modern Foreign Languages we aim to raise awareness and understanding of different cultural codes in other countries, and encourage pupils to reflect on aspects of their own lives in relation to these. Through the learning of a modern foreign language, pupils can develop tolerance and the ability to reflect on various religious and cultural practices. Ultimately, studying a modern foreign language can help develop values and skills to enable pupils to become global citizens, whilst showing humility and compassion towards others through working together.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPEMNT- In MFL pupils are taught to accept, embrace and respect other languages, cultures and traditions. This awareness is embedded throughout the KS3/4 curriculums for example when we are comparing English and French Christmas traditions, or All Saint's Day. During the language lessons pupils learn and follow a pilgrimage along the "Saint James Way" through France and Spain to the Cathedral of Santiago. Pupils "visit" and learn about different villages, and places of worship along the route.

MORAL DEVELOPEMNT- In the MFL department we feel that education should honour all aspects of being human, not just the intellectual and physical dimensions. In particular, respect and sensitivity towards others comes from understanding and exchange. The study of languages facilitates communication and helps unite people through our common humanity.

Pupils are encouraged to be empathetic towards other cultures, beliefs and traditions. Stereotypes are also challenged and this includes respect for different accents. Throughout the MFL curriculum pupils learn to develop an appreciation of music, art, cinema, literature and festivals from the French and Spanish speaking worlds. Pupils are encouraged to express their beliefs towards different attitudes and differences between cultures, for example France being a secular country or bull fighting in Spain. Topics such as healthy living, charity work, homelessness, technology, environment and career choices bring up a range of moral issues that are discussed and debated.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT- In KS3 the topic of family looks at family relationships, and in KS4 we look at relationships and also social issues. Pupils are encouraged to discover, discuss and debate unfamiliar lifestyles, global events, problems and changes. Pupils are encouraged throughout the lessons to use target language in independent work, pair work or group work. Pupils often work with other pupils that are not in their friendship groups to encourage and foster different social interactions. Throughout language lessons pupils learn the value and importance of learning another language, that it is not just about speaking a language. Pupils are encouraged to experiment and learn from any mistakes made.

CULTURAL DEVELOPEMNT- Exploration of language and culture is key to language learning. Each half term a different cultural aspect of the French and Spanish speaking worlds is discussed. We celebrate European Day of Languages, International French and Spanish days. Particular festivals, religious and spiritual celebrations, and differences in cultural days are discussed. Values of respect, tolerance, celebration of cultural difference and diversity are taught in the MFL classroom. Learning about culture, not only brings language learning alive in the classroom, it nurtures interest and enthusiasm in the classroom.