



### **MfL Vision Statement**

At Sheffield Lower School we believe that the learning of a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for pupils. Pupils develop communication and literacy skills that lay the foundation for future language learning. They develop linguistic competence, extend their knowledge of how language works and explore differences and similarities between the foreign language (French, in our case) and English. Learning other languages gives children a new perspective on the world, encouraging them to further understand their own cultures and those of others. The learning of a foreign language provides a medium for cross-curricular links and for reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other subjects.

#### **At Sheffield Lower School we teach the children 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.

#### **The MFL Curriculum**

We use a variety of techniques to encourage the children to have an active engagement in the Modern foreign Language. These include: games, role-play and action songs. We use mime and actions to accompany new vocabulary as this serves to demonstrate the language without the need for translation. We use multi-sensory and kinaesthetic approach to teaching e.g. we try to introduce a physical element into some of the games, rhymes and songs.

We make lessons as enjoyable as possible so that the children develop a positive attitude to the learning of Modern Foreign Languages.

#### **Intercultural Understanding**

At Sheffield Lower School, we develop pupils' intercultural understanding by learning about the different languages spoken by children in our school, increasing the awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity. We locate the countries where French is spoken and find out facts about one of these countries. The pupils' also have the opportunity to engage with our twinning school in Sri Lanka. Children use this opportunity to compare the everyday life of other cultures to their own.