



## Heron Hill Primary School: Curriculum Overview

### Modern Foreign Languages (German)

*“You live a new life for every language you speak. If you only know one language, you only live once.”  
Czech proverb.*

At Heron Hill School, modern foreign languages are introduced across the school and German is taught formally in Key Stage 2. We believe that learning a language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for pupils but it also prepares them for a rapidly changing world in which work and other activities are increasingly carried out in languages other than English. *“Learning a foreign language is a liberation from insularity and provides an opening to other cultures.”(National Curriculum 2014)*

The MFL curriculum is based on a scheme of work developed by the subject leader. This is linked to the statutory guidelines for KS2 outlined in the National Curriculum Framework as well as the learning objectives of the non-statutory KS2 Framework for Languages. The curriculum is delivered in weekly sessions across Years 3 to 6, taught by the class teacher or PPA teacher and supported by the Subject Leader who is a fluent German speaker. ICT is used through language web-sites to support the teaching, providing engaging and fun games, songs and activities as well as ensuring that correct pronunciation is taught to the children.

Through our teaching of German we aim to:

- foster a love of learning other languages by stimulating and encouraging children’s curiosity about language in an enjoyable and engaging way
- develop their understanding of what they hear and read and have an ability to express themselves in speech and writing.
- extend their knowledge of how language works and explore differences and similarities between German and English
- promote a deeper intercultural understanding through learning about the traditions, culture and geography of other countries including Germany
- lay the foundations for the learning of further languages when they move onto secondary school.

Additional opportunities to use the German language the children are learning, are explored in a variety of ways, including year group assemblies, family days and European Day of Languages annually on 26<sup>th</sup> September. In 2016, the Lower Junior’s production of the Pied Piper of Hamelin was a perfect opportunity to showcase the children’s language skills in a bi-lingual production!

In Years 4 and 5, pupils have the chance to develop links with our twinned school, Grundschule Nord in Rinteln, Germany. The children enjoy exchanging letters and cards, written in the target language, several times a year with their pen-pals.

*“One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way.” (Frank Smith)*