

# St. Mark's Catholic Primary School



## Modern Foreign Languages Policy

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## **Modern Foreign Languages Policy**

We believe that 'learning a foreign language is liberation from insularity and provides an opening to other cultures. A high-quality languages education should foster pupils' curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. The teaching should enable pupils to express their ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and in writing. It should also provide opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes, learn new ways of thinking and read great literature in the original language. Language teaching should provide the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries.' (The National Curriculum in England Framework Document (DfE) 2014)

We have a duty to ensure compliance with the revised National Curriculum and with the application of the new programmes of study and attainment targets. We understand that 'the National Curriculum provides pupils with an introduction to the core knowledge that they need to be educated citizens.'

### **Aims**

Our aim is to develop the confidence and competence of each child in the foreign language they are learning. Our goal is for them to be passionate, curious and confident about their own foreign language learning abilities when they finished the primary school phase of their education.

We will help them develop and demonstrate progress in the 5 key language skills necessary for learning Spanish:

- Speaking – to ensure that all pupils 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.
- Listening – to ensure that children develop their listening skills so that they can translate and be able to develop their skills in all 5 areas.
- Reading – to ensure that all pupils discover an appreciation of a range of writing/reading in the language studied.
- Writing – to ensure that all pupils understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources.
- Grammar – to ensure that all pupils can write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt.

(The National Curriculum in England Framework Document (DfE) 2014)

## Teaching and Learning Overview

Our whole school approach to language teaching and learning is in line with the recommendations of the National Curriculum and the requirements outlined in the Department for Education Languages Programme of Study for Key Stage 2.

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 authentic writing in the language studied.

By the end of Key Stage 2, pupils should be able to:

1. Listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding.
2. Explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words.
3. Engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help.
4. Speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures.
5. Develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases.
6. Present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences.
7. Read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing.
8. Appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language.
9. Broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary.
10. Write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly.
11. Describe people, places, things and actions orally and in writing.
12. Understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied, including (where relevant): feminine, masculine and neuter forms and the conjugation of high-frequency verbs; key features and patterns of the language; how to apply these, for instance, to build sentences; and how these differ from or are similar to English.

## **Organisation and Delivery**

Spanish is taught in a whole-class setting by a School Improvement Liverpool languages specialist with class teachers assisting and occasionally team teaching alongside.

Our school follows the School Improvement Liverpool scheme of learning for Spanish.

The lessons are designed to motivate, captivate and interest children from the first moment. They have clear, achievable objectives and incorporate different learning styles. Children with SEND have access to the curriculum through variation of task, grouping or support from an adult.

Each class has a timetabled lesson of 30 minutes per week. Spanish lessons include:

- PowerPoints and interactive whiteboard materials
- Interactive games
- Songs and raps
- Desk-based activities
- Worksheets are provided in each topic with a writing assessment at the end of each topic

## **Assessment of Pupil Learning and Progression**

At the end of each topic the children complete a writing assessment which is led by the specialist teacher along with the class teacher. These assessments are used to assess both pupil attainment and progress in each topic area.