

'With Jesus we can achieve what we dream and believe'

"You live a new life for every language you speak. If you only know one language, you only live once."

Czech Proverb

Overview

Learning a foreign language is part of the primary National Curriculum and is a requirement for all children within key stage 2 (KS2). St. Michael's has adopted a whole school approach to the teaching of Spanish to all KS2 pupils.

Intent

The curriculum here at St Michael's, underpinned by the National Curriculum, holds our children and their aspirations, environment and development at its heart. Whilst allowing them to build their knowledge, skills and resilience, it also prepares them for their future as citizens of Liverpool and the wider world. We embrace our children's spiritual needs through our mission values whilst celebrating their cultural diversity and identity.

By the time our children reach the end of their primary journey we endeavour for them to have the ability to communicate effectively using a broad and varied vocabulary, having been exposed to a wide range of literature and a plethora of life enriching experiences.

Year-on-year, children will build on their knowledge and skills to enable them to unlock new learning and explore their talents and interests.

St. Michael's Catholic Primary School intends to use the Language Angels scheme of work and resources to ensure we offer a relevant, broad, vibrant and ambitious foreign languages curriculum that will inspire and excite our pupils using a wide variety of topics and themes. All pupils will be expected to achieve their full potential by encouraging high expectations and excellent standards in their foreign language learning – the ultimate aim being that pupils will feel willing and able to continue studying languages beyond key stage 2.

The intent is that all content will be continuously updated and reviewed annually, creating a dynamic programme of study that will be clearly outlined in both long-term and short-term planning. This will ensure that the foreign language knowledge of our pupils progresses within each academic year and is extended year upon year throughout key stage 2 and, in so doing, will always be relevant and in line with meeting or exceeding national DfE requirements.

The four key language learning skills; listening, speaking, reading and writing will be taught and all necessary grammar will be covered in an age-appropriate way across the primary phase. This will enable pupils to use and apply their learning in a variety of contexts, laying down solid foundations for future language learning and also helping the children improve overall attainment in other subject areas. In addition, the

children will be taught how to look up and research language they are unsure of and they will have a bank of reference materials to help them with their spoken and written tasks going forward. This bank of reference materials will develop into a reference library to help pupils recall and build on previous knowledge throughout their primary school language learning journey.

The intent is that all key stage 2 pupils will develop a genuine interest and positive curiosity about foreign languages, finding them enjoyable and stimulating. Learning a second language will also offer pupils the opportunity to explore relationships between language and identity, develop a deeper understanding of other cultures and the world around them with a better awareness of self, others and cultural differences. The intention is that they will be working towards becoming life-long language learners.

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 finish the primary school phase of their education.

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

- Speaking
- Listening
- Reading
- Writing
- Grammar

We aim to ensure that pupils of all abilities develop solid foundations in these key language learning skills - properly preparing them for the next stage of their language learning journey. These skills will develop children's ability to understand what they hear and read and enable them to express themselves in speech and writing. We will extend their knowledge of how language works and explore the similarities and differences between the foreign language they are learning and English. We will also help strengthen their sense of identity through learning about culture in other countries and comparing it with their own.

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 & Delivery

Spanish is taught in a whole-class setting by the class teacher and is therefore not reliant on one key member of staff.

Teachers plan their lessons using the Language Angels scheme of work and can supplement this with their own ideas and experience and those of their colleagues.

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

Each class has a timetabled lesson of at least thirty minutes every 2 weeks. Children review their knowledge and skills through retrieval practice at the start of every new lesson.

Spanish can also be revisited in short sessions throughout the week to consolidate knowledge and ensure new language is retained.

Spanish lessons include:

- PowerPoints and interactive whiteboard materials
- Interactive games (which pupils can access from home to consolidate their learning)
- Songs & raps
- Differentiated desk-based consolidation activities
- Worksheets (at three different levels of challenge) are provided throughout each teaching unit and can be used in class or can be sent home to be completed as a homework exercise

Each lesson will focus on a combination of the 5 key language learning skills (speaking, listening, reading, writing and grammar).

Resources

The Language Angels scheme is a fully online resource enabling all teachers in all classes to have instant and continuous access to all the resources they need to teach whichever lesson they choose.

Assessment of Pupil Learning & Progression

Two forms of assessment are available at the end of every Language Angels unit:

1. Peer and self-assessment 'I can do...' grids. A quick and easy way for all pupils in the class to record which units they have completed and the progress they are making.
2. More detailed skills based assessments using bespoke skills assessment worksheets. This form of assessment enables us to determine the learning and progression of all pupils in the key language learning skills as well as monitoring their progress against the 12 attainment targets stipulated in the DfE Languages Programme of Study for Key Stage 2.

Health and Safety:

- A risk assessment will be made, as part of the planning process, before any potentially dangerous Spanish activity is undertaken.
- Children will be informed of any risks or hazards but will also be encouraged to assess and identify risks for themselves.

Roles & Responsibility

The Subject leader's role:

- Prepare policy and develop policy.
- Provide consultancy, advice, skills.
- Specifying and ordering resources in consultation with staff.
- Monitor teaching and learning in Spanish.
- Create a progression of skills to indicate steps of learning.

- Provide staff with the access to online resources to cover the topics which are age appropriate and provide suitable stretch and challenge.
- Create an updated Medium Term Plan in line with updated Spanish curriculum to ensure coverage of the National Curriculum objectives and consistency across year groups and cohorts.

The teacher's role is:

- Use the Language Angels scheme to plan for and teach exciting and stimulating lessons.
- Use assessment to influence future planning.
- Ensure MFL objectives are being taught consistently.
- Use retrieval / revision activities to encourage retention of key skills and previously taught knowledge.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The teaching and learning of Spanish will be monitored through the analysis of medium term planning, pupil interviews, a sample of children's work and end of year curriculum teacher assessments. The policy for MFL will be reviewed regularly to ensure aims remain relevant and strategies / steps to success are updated regularly to include any new found strategies/developments to teaching and learning.

Evaluation of the policy will take into account:

- External inspection / advice
- Staff development
- Coverage of programmes of study
- Staff / Pupil voice and opinion of the teaching & learning of Spanish.
- Any updates to our Spanish curriculum / Medium term / Long term planning

Date Approved by Governing Body: 25/05/2021

Chair Governors: Jeanette Riley

Headteacher: Alyson Rigby

Next Review Date: May 2023