



St Matthew's Church of England Primary School

Foreign Language Policy

Our mission statement:

We aim to provide a positive learning experience in a safe and respectful environment. We strive to teach an inspiring and inclusive curriculum that promotes a love of learning. As a Christian school, we endeavour to develop the spiritual and moral values of all members of the St. Matthew's family, and a meaningful, loving relationship with God. We want our children to be cheerful and independent individuals who reach their potential and are proud of their achievements. We hope to develop confident, caring citizens who are well prepared to enjoy happy and rewarding lives.

Our motto: Live, Love, Learn

Aims & Objectives

Learning a language enriches the curriculum, providing excitement, enjoyment and challenges for children and teachers, helping to create enthusiastic learners and to develop positive attitudes to language learning throughout life. The natural links between languages and other areas of the curriculum can enhance the overall teaching and learning experience. The skills, knowledge and understanding gained make a major contribution to the development of children's oral and literary development and to their understanding of their own culture/s and those of others.

Language also lies at the heart of ideas about individual identity, community and learning another language can do a great deal to shape children's ideas in this critical area as well as giving them a new perspective on their own language.

At St Matthew's, we aim to develop children's experience of language acquisition and encourage curiosity about languages.

Our aims of teaching Foreign Language (FL) are for children to:

- Foster an interest in learning another language.
- Become aware that language has a structure, and that this structure differs from one language to another.
- Gain enjoyment, pride and a sense of achievement.
- Explore and apply strategies to improve their learning.
- Explore their own cultural identities and those of others.

Teaching and learning styles

At St Matthew's, we use a variety of teaching and learning styles in our FL lessons. Our principal aim is to develop children's knowledge, skills and understanding. Children will have the opportunity to support their work with a variety of resources. We aim for a balance of whole class, group and independent learning.

Spanish lessons are split into listening, reading, oral and writing activities. Previous learning and basic phrases are to be repeated every week in short five-minute game or activity at the beginning of every lesson to consolidate learning. Recommended resources are available on the school network and library. Each KS2 class has resources to accompany the teaching of FL.

Lesson Content

Learning an additional language is a requirement for children within KS2 as part of the National Curriculum. Our chosen language is Spanish, based on staff knowledge and availability of quality resources.

In line with the 2014 National Curriculum for Languages, Spanish lessons in KS2 are to include:

- Listening attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding.
- The exploration of the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words.
- To engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help.
- Speaking in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures.

- Developing accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases.
- Presenting ideas and information orally to a range of audiences.
- Reading carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing.
- Appreciation of stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language.
- The broadening of their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a Spanish dictionary.
- Writing phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly.
- Describing people, places, things and actions orally and in writing.
- To 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.

FL and Inclusion

In all classes' children have a wide range of abilities, and we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. FL is a highly inclusive subject. We strive hard to meet the needs of those pupils with special educational needs, those with disabilities, and those learning English as an additional language (EAL). Lessons are differentiated for all groups of children by using visual resources and KAGAN collaborative learning. FL forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our FL teaching we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make good progress.

Assessment

Spanish in KS2 is taught on a weekly basis. Teachers assess children's work in FL throughout each lesson and formally on a termly basis. The subject leader will keep samples of children's work in a portfolio. This demonstrates what the expected level of achievement is in FL in each year of KS2. At the end of Summer term, the teacher makes a summary judgement about the work of each pupil in relation to the National Curriculum, and records these judgements on Target Tracker.

Resources

A bank of resources is available to support the delivery of the scheme of work (Lightbulb Languages). Spanish resources are kept at the back of the hall that can be used alongside the scheme. It is the teacher's responsibility to ensure that all resources are cared for and returned.

Monitoring and review

Monitoring of the standards of children's work and the quality of teaching in FL is the responsibility of the subject leader, supported by the SLT and Head teacher. The work of the subject leader also involves supporting colleagues in their teaching, being informed about current developments in the subject, and providing a strategic lead and direction for FL in the school. The FL Subject Leader is also responsible for supporting members of staff in all aspects of FL, updating the resources and monitoring and evaluating the planning and assessment to ensure continuity and progression. The Head teacher and Governors play a vital role in encouraging good practice and ensuring the policy is adhered to.

Roles and Responsibilities

The subject is led by Miss Thompson and each year time is set aside to review standards, monitor curriculum provision and ensure training and resources are up to date.

Date: May 2021

Subject Leader: D Thompson

Review Date: May 2024