



Subject Rationale – Spanish

Our Vision for Spanish

In 2023, through consultation with staff, children and stakeholders, we took the decision as a school to move from French to Spanish. A key question we always ask ourselves as a school when developing our curriculum is “what do our children need?” We believe that our children are more likely to experience Spanish outside of school. Our feeder High Schools all teach Spanish and we have had a number of Spanish speaking children attending our school over the years.

At St Mary's we are determined to ensure that every KS2 child receives high quality Languages teaching which promotes a passion and interest for learning a new language. Our intention is to provide our children with a genuine interest and positive curiosity about languages which enables them to become life-long language learners.

Our lessons aim to teach the children at St Mary's the skills needed to communicate with confidence in Spanish, including phonics, speaking, understanding, reading and writing. By the end of KS2 we want our children to be able to express their thoughts and ideas through both speaking and writing in Spanish.

Content

We follow the Language Angels scheme of work across KS2. The children enjoy using the resources, including video stories, songs and games. The scheme ensures that the children learn Spanish vocabulary linked to a range of topics including money, animals and school.

The scheme was chosen as it provides opportunities for children to develop skills in speaking, understanding, reading and writing. The units are covered over a 2 year cycle across upper and lower key stage 2. As well as covering a wide range of vocabulary, grammar and vital phonic knowledge, the scheme also provides opportunities to learn about Spanish culture.

Progression of Skills and Knowledge

The Spanish curriculum at St Mary's focuses on developing children's skills and knowledge and provides a clear framework of progression. Pupils continuously build on their prior learning, recall prior knowledge (vocabulary, grammar and phonics), and practice previously taught skills.

The progression grid outlines the speaking, understanding, writing and reading skills children will develop (explicitly split into year group expectations). This ensures that the children's skills in Spanish develop across Key Stage 2 and result in children reaching at least the expectation of the DfE in relation to Languages.

Assessment and Inclusion

If pupils are not progressing in line with expectations, this will be identified through formative assessment during lessons and end of unit 'POP' tasks. This means that early intervention can be planned to address any areas that require attention by providing additional support or adapting lessons as appropriate. Teachers also use assessments to make judgements of Emerging, Developing or and Secure; as set out in the school tracking system. This is recorded on Insight at the end of each assessment period.

Opportunities & Resources

The use of the Language Angels online resources ensures that children experience accurate and consistent pronunciation. Spanish is taught interactively and in fun and interesting ways including through games and songs. Where possible learning is extended outside of the lesson and teachers refer back to learning from the discrete lesson throughout the week.

Monitoring

The Languages Lead carries out book monitoring, pupil voice, teacher feedback and observations in order to monitor the progress towards achieving the outcomes identified in the annual action plan. Feedback is shared with colleagues, SLT and Governors, including what is working well, areas to consider and next steps – this is then reviewed and informs the following academic year's action plan.