

Spanish

‘The decision to learn a foreign language is to me an act of friendship. It is indeed a holding out of the hand. It’s not just a route to negotiation. It’s also to get to know you better, to draw closer to you and your culture, your social manners and your way of thinking.’ John Le Carre

We understand the enrichment that language learning offers to our pupils. It instils pupils with the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life. It deepens an understanding and appreciation of the world around us, and promotes greater tolerance, empathy and acceptance of others. It also boosts brain functions by improved memory, critical thinking skills, listening skills and creates a deeper understanding of how our own language works. It is our aim to inspire our children to travel, explore the world, and generate a life-long love of language learning.

The overarching theme for our curriculum is **People & Places** - understanding the world that we live in and the people who inhabit it. As a global language, Spanish is spoken in 21 countries on four continents by over 490 million native speakers, thus demonstrating its importance and diversity.

Our school’s Core Values are **Considerate, Creative, Motivated, Reflective, Resilient and Respectful**. Our Spanish curriculum has been planned with these in mind.

Intent

‘To learn a language is to have one more window from which to look at the world’ Chinese proverb

It is our intention to create a culture of language learning that helps children become confident communicators with a ‘can do’ attitude and an inquisitiveness of the world and its people.

The Spanish curriculum is carefully planned around clear, sequential progression in the ‘3 pillars’ of language: phonics, vocabulary and grammar to foster children’s listening, speaking, read and writing skills. It also offers regular opportunities to build on prior language and to revisit and apply language learned previously.

Children are also exposed to Spanish and Hispanic culture through its focus on traditions and festivals of Spain and Mexico, enriching theme days and the use of books and songs.

[National Curriculum - Languages](#)

Implementation

Our Spanish curriculum is adapted from the Primary Languages Network scheme, and supplemented with resources from Physical Spanish Phonics, Lightbulb languages, Rachelhawkes.com and Conti’s Spanish Sentence Builders.

- Spanish lessons are delivered weekly by the Subject Lead and PPA teacher.
- The lesson activities are challenging, varied and interactive and incorporate explicit teaching of the three key knowledge strands - phonics, vocabulary and grammar to develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills.
- The choice of topics ensures exposure to all the key phonic sounds, prioritises the use of high frequency words and ensures appropriate grammatical progress.

- Lessons are intended to be active and highly focused, with children working as a whole class, in small groups, in mixed-ability pairs or independently to complete tasks at their individual level.
- Lessons and activities are structured and resourced in a variety of ways to accommodate children in the same class who are all at different stages of their language-learning journeys.
- Lessons are sequenced so that prior learning is considered and opportunities for revision and recall of language and grammatical concepts are built into lessons. Lessons help children to build on prior knowledge alongside the introduction of new skills. Knowledge and skills are progressive and are outlined in the Spanish Progression map
- Pupils acquisition of language is based on teacher assessment of their spoken and written Spanish in lessons and how well they have met the assessment milestones with progress logged on a tracker.
- Activities consist of games, stories, songs, phonics, grammar and sentence-building activities, tongue twisters, jokes, resources and dictionary work, to name but a few.
- Culture and customs of Spanish speaking countries are integrated into planning and enhanced with theme days
- Spanish vocabulary is displayed in all KS2 classrooms to support learning and to increase the profile of languages alongside Spanish displays in the main halls.
- Formative assessment in each lesson informs the planning and teaching of subsequent lesson plans.

Impact

Our Spanish curriculum will ensure all pupils develop key language learning skills set out by the national curriculum, as well as deepening their understanding and appreciation of the world around us, and promoting a greater tolerance, empathy and acceptance of others

Pupils will:

- Have a love of language learning
- Understand about some different customs and cultures from around the world
- Have a bank of Spanish knowledge and vocabulary
- Be able to use their knowledge of phonics to decode new words and, where appropriate, use their knowledge of cognates to find meaning
- Have developed a strong understanding of the three key knowledge strands
- Be able to speak confidently and maintain a conversation in Spanish in front of an audience or their peers
- Recognise and understand some of the grammar rules of Spanish and can apply these in their written and spoken work
- Will be able to read passages confidently in Spanish and understand what they have read