

St Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School



FOREIGN LANGUAGES CURRICULUM STATEMENT

Intent

At St. Mary of the Angels, we concur with the National Curriculum view on foreign language learning, as a 'liberation from insularity' which 'provides an opening to other cultures.' We have a tradition of contacts with schools abroad, such as links in Tanzania, our foreign exchange opportunities and other Erasmus/British Council work, including an e-safety learning project with European partners. We hold the European Union International Schools Award; and the school has also been a centre for Primary Languages teacher training for some years.

Our taught language is Spanish. We aim for:

- high quality languages education, fostering a curiosity about language learning in our pupils. pupils expressing ideas in another language; and listening to others in that native tongue
- comparing phonics & structures in different languages, with plenty of oracy and writing
- fostering a lifelong love in language learning, equipping pupils for future study and work opportunities abroad.

Implementation

- We use core schemes such as the Primary Languages Network and Rockalingua.
- Weekly language lessons are delivered by a languages graduate, our Headteacher, across the junior department; other pupils use simple greetings, counting etc in our infant department.
- Pupils read, understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of sources.
- Practical opportunities, in a variety of media, help pupils to embed what they've learnt, in a fun and memorable way.
- Our website provides lots of additional home learning activities, to extend current learning.

Impact

- Dozens of children now have regular contact with peers/friends abroad, as over 200 children took part in previous Spanish exchanges abroad. Even pupils now in Y12 are regularly in touch, via X Box, Instagram etc. Many families have travelled to Pamplona and back, as part of this life changing experience.
- Pupils really enjoy Spanish lessons; pupil voice tells us that they are developing a love and enthusiasm for language and life in Spain.
- Pupils achieve well, and cross curricular work (such as comparing Phonics in each language and using bilingual dictionaries) impacts positively in other curricular areas.
- Class books indicate to other stakeholders how well the children are achieving.
- Members of staff have also gone to night school and learnt Spanish as a result of our ethos, upskilling the workforce for the future.
- Pupils can apply their inclusive nature, through studying about Spain and working with children from Spain, which enhances their knowledge and understanding of Europe and the wider world.