**PRIMARY SPANISH RATIONALE, INTENT, IMPLEMENTATION & IMPACT POLICY**

Rationale

At St Matthew’s, we are passionate about delivering a curriculum, which equips our pupils with practical skills and knowledge, giving them the opportunity to thrive and flourish. As Spain is the most visited holiday destination for our families, we chose to teach Spanish. The Spanish language is considered to follow a logical, straight-forward phonetic pattern, making it particularly suitable for our children, who find language acquisition challenging. Another reason we chose to teach Spanish is that a large proportion of local high schools also deliver Spanish. Providing our pupils with a solid foundation of language knowledge, will enable them to begin secondary education with confidence and determination to succeed. Although not a language expert herself, our Spanish subject leader completed a GCSE Spanish qualification and is passionate about the school community learning together and instilling confidence in staff and pupils alike.

Intent

St Matthew’s C of E Primary School uses the Language Angels scheme of work to ensure offering a relevant, broad, vibrant and ambitious Spanish curriculum, that inspires and excites our pupils using a variety of topics and themes. All pupils are expected to achieve their full potential by establishing high expectations in their foreign language learning. Our ultimate aim is for pupils to want to continue studying languages beyond Key Stage 2.

Our intent is to continuously update and review content annually, creating a dynamic programme of study, which is clearly outlined in both long-term and short-term planning. This will ensure that the Spanish knowledge of our pupils is relevant and is built upon within each academic year of the primary phase, facilitating our ability to fulfil national DfE requirements.

The four key language skills are taught in age-appropriate terms throughout Key Stage 2: **listening**, **speaking**, **reading** and **writing.** Necessary grammatical concepts are also tailored to each year group’s knowledge and understanding. This enables pupils to use and apply their learning in a variety of contexts, forming solid foundations for future language learning and improving overall attainment in other subjects. In addition, our children are taught vital research skills, enabling them so clarify queries independently. Their learnings are added to a bank of reference materials, which support the completion of future spoken and written tasks. This bank will grow into a reference library, enabling pupils to recall and build on previous knowledge throughout their Spanish learning journey.

Our intent is for all pupils to find learning Spanish enjoyable and stimulating, developing a genuine interest and curiosity. Learning a second language offers pupils the opportunity to explore relationships between language and identity and develop a deeper understanding of other cultures and the world around them. We hope for our pupils to become life-long language learners.

Implementation

All classes have access to a high-quality Spanish curriculum, which progressively develops language skills through teacher-led weekly lessons in Key Stage 2.

Children progressively acquire and apply a growing bank of vocabulary, language skills and grammatical knowledge centred around age-appropriate topics and themes (building blocks of language into more complex, fluent and authentic Spanish).

All teachers are aware of which point each child is at in their foreign language learning journey. We utilise differentiated resources tailored to every level of ability. The Language Angels scheme clearly outlines which units to teach at each stage of the academic year and is reviewed and updated annually. Lessons offer appropriate levels of challenge to ensure our pupils learn effectively, continuously building their knowledge and enthusiasm for Spanish.

Language Angels resources are categorised by **Teaching Type** to make it easier for our teachers to choose units appropriate for their classes. **Early Language** units are most appropriate for pupils with little or no previous Spanish language learning (Year 3). **Intermediate** units are more difficult, presenting children with a broader range of vocabulary and grammatical concepts and are suitable for pupils with embedded basic Spanish knowledge (Year 4-5 pupils). **Progressive** and **Creative Curriculum** units are the most challenging and suitable for pupils with secure understanding of the basics of Spanish (Year 6). Grouping units into **Teaching Type** categories ensures the Spanish taught is appropriate for the level of the class and introduced when the children are ready. Children are taught how to listen and read longer passages of Spanish text gradually. There is ample opportunity for our pupils to speak, listen to, read and write Spanish both with scaffolded support and independently. Where appropriate, units are linked to class topics and cross-curricular themes, such as geography.

* We begin with **nouns** and **articles** and **1st person singular of high frequency verbs** in **Early Learning** units.
* We move on to the use of the **possessive;** the **concept of adjectives**; use of the **negative form**; **conjunctions** and introduce the **concept of whole regular verb conjugation** in **Intermediate** units.
* We end with **opinions** and introduce the **concept of whole high frequency irregular verb conjugation** in **Progressive** units.

Grammar is integrated and taught discreetly throughout all units. Teachers use the specific **Grammar Explained** units to ensure our pupils are exposed to appropriate grammatical concepts, equipping them to accurately respond to complex Spanish questions by the end of the primary phase.

Our **Progression Map** shows how the key skills of **speaking**, **listening**, **reading**, **writing** and **grammar** develop within and across each **Teaching Type**.

The St Matthew’s **unit planner,** outlines the content to be covered at which stage in the year for each year group. This ensures each class continuously progresses and builds upon their previous learning. Each teaching unit is divided into 6 lessons, with clearly defined learning goals and aims.

As pupils progress through a unit, they build knowledge and begin to use language of increasing complexity. Teachers assess each language skill (**speaking**, **listening**, **reading** and **writing**) at two points during the year to establish the level of progress achieved.

We are determined to evoke passion and enthusiasm for Spanish from both pupils and staff. As such, various Spanish activities and cultural practices are incorporated into wider school life:

* Foreign language celebration assemblies.
* Spanish club (including cookery sessions of traditional Spanish foods and fashion shows exhibiting traditional Spanish clothing).
* Weather forecasts based on maps from Spain.
* School celebrations of Spanish national feast days.

 Impact

At St Matthew's, we ignite a love for Spanish in our children. We provide a range of opportunities to support our pupils’ development of the knowledge and skills necessary to become global citizens. Learning a foreign language provides an opening to other cultures, fosters curiosity and deepens children’s understanding of the world. Our pupils appreciate and embrace the linguistic and cultural diversity of the world we live in. We help our pupils to establish the foundations for further foreign language learning at Key Stage 3 and a smoother transition to Secondary School.