



Modern Foreign Languages

Curriculum Statement



At Drake's and Otterton C of E Primary Schools, we want our children to become resilient, positive, articulate young people who are able to make well informed life choices. We believe that teaching a broad and rich curriculum which encourages children to learn and experience other languages through a taught curriculum, as well as the enrichment opportunities it offers, will support our children to reach this goal.

Intent

We aim for all children to be fully engaged in their MFL lessons; to be challenged by them and to make good progress during them. Over time, we strive to develop the children's confidence to speak, sing, write and converse in Spanish. Children are given opportunities to explore, investigate and make mistakes from which they can learn. Their contributions are always valued and celebrated. Our aim is for children to develop 'a suitcase' of skills and vocabulary, which they are able to apply in other situations and to other languages. Our focus on QFT (Quality First Teaching) ensures that we have high expectations and that all children (including SEND, PP and the lowest 20%,) are supported, when appropriate, to access our full and rich curriculum.

The 2013 National Curriculum for Modern Foreign Languages aims to ensure that all children:

- understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources.
- speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and that they are continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation.
- write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt.
- discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied.

A high-quality languages education should foster children's enjoyment, curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. The teaching of Spanish in KS2 provides an appropriate balance of spoken and written language and lays the foundations for further foreign language teaching at KS3.

Implementation

Children are introduced to Spanish through formal lessons from Year 3. The schools have recently begun using La Jolie Ronde scheme to support the teaching of Spanish – this appears to be working well with the children commenting on how much they are enjoying this. Enrichment activities will include an 'All Speaking Spanish Day' in the Summer term, children will speak Spanish and each class will focus on a different country which uses Spanish as a first language. Children are currently trying to order their lunch choices in Spanish!

As set out by the National Curriculum, we encourage children to:

- listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding
- explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words
- engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others
- speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures
- develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases
- present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences
- read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing
- appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language
- broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary
- write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly describe people, places, things and actions orally and in writing
- understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied and how these differ from or are similar to English

Impact

Though Spanish is currently taught discretely, we ensure that it is included across each year group in KS2, with a level of progression (illustrated in the Progression of Skills documents) that supports and challenges our children so that they develop 'a suitcase' of skills. We aim to provide our children with the expertise and knowledge that will prepare them for successful, healthy lives in the ever changing world that we live in.

MFL is also celebrated through theme days – in the Summer term we will include an 'All Speaking Spanish Day' when children will speak Spanish and each class will focus on a different country which uses Spanish as a first language.

The Curriculum Leader for MFL is: Mr Peter Halford

Languages in the Early Years:

In Early Years, we believe it is very important for children to learn about other backgrounds, cultures and traditions, including other languages. We provide many opportunities for children to explore the wider world around them through stories. During registration, children are introduced to a wide variety of 'good mornings' including those home languages, of peers in their class. The children thoroughly enjoy learning simple words in other languages and are fascinated to learn more. In Reception, we invite families from other cultures into the classrooms to teach the children traditional nursery rhymes, phrases and some information about their home country.