

St Matthew's Bloxam Church of England (VC) Primary School



Languages Policy

November 2023

Languages Policy

Purpose of study

"Learning a foreign language is a liberation from insularity and provides an opening to other cultures. A high-quality languages education should foster pupils' curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. The teaching should enable pupils to express their ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and writing. It should also provide opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes, learn new ways of thinking and read great literature in the original language. Language teaching should provide the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries".

The National Curriculum in England: Key Stages 1 and 2 Framework Document. September 2013.

Context

The KS2 classes have been language learners since September 2009. The school is a one form entry school with approximately 210 pupils on roll. There are approximately 20 languages spoken, including English, with equates to approximately 37% of pupils with English as an Additional Language (EAL).

Vision

Learning another language gives children the opportunity to develop positive attitudes to and respect for different languages and cultures. We aim to foster pupils' curiosity and deepen their understanding of both the world around them and their own language. Our children will be able to acquire and develop language skills, using what they have learned in a range of contexts with increasing competence and confidence.

During lessons pupils will be encouraged 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
- read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing
- broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary

Organisation

At SMB Primary School we focus on Spanish so that children can show progress in their language learning by the end of KS2. However we believe that it is important that the children gain experiences of other languages and take pride in their native

languages. We aim to heighten their awareness of these through the teaching of various topics, European days and inter-cultural celebrations. In a multi-lingual society it is a valuable skill to be able to communicate effectively with others in another language.

Management and Training

The subject is managed by the languages lead. To ensure the language skills of staff are developed and sustained, the school are members of the Primary Languages Network (PLN). This provides all of the materials, resources and supporting sound files and activities to enable the school to ensure progression in language learning across the four core skills, and also the DfE 12 Attainment Targets. The lead teacher will advise, work and guide staff when required.

The Curriculum

Our school follows the PLN scheme of work. It is a live scheme which is continually updated and revised in order to meet with current curriculum standards. Alongside the planning provided, the network also enriches this through accompanying power points, pod casts (spoken by native speakers), links to authentic literature, songs, games, culture points of reference and links to appropriate websites.

Teaching and Learning

To promote an active learning of languages, a range of teaching methods are implemented to ensure that the children are ready. Activities can consist of rhymes, stories, song, drama, grammar focus, video clips, air writing, sentence structure, dictionary work, book making and many more creative ways to extend, embed and combine language skills.

Assessment

Assessment is recorded on school's Sonar tracking system.

Monitoring

The lead teacher monitors Spanish lessons through learning walks, children's books, pupil interviews and through the assessment system.

Review

This policy will be reviewed in three years time (unless there is a change of scheme).
Review date: November 2026.