



Modern Foreign Languages Policy

Review Date November 2025

Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day; Working Together



MFL POLICY

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What is Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) in the Primary Curriculum?

As set out in the curriculum a high-quality language education should encourage children's 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 in writing. It should also provide opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes and learn new ways of thinking. Language teaching should provide the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries.

Aims

At Crabtree Farm Primary School, we believe that a high-quality language education should encourage children's curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. We value the importance of teaching a foreign language as this helps to develop their self-confidence, enriches and enhances children's mental development and encourages a positive attitude towards foreign languages.

Our children will understand, read, write and speak simple, conversational Spanish, allowing them to become part of a multi-cultural society. They will welcome and celebrate diversity and know how important languages can be in their future.

Our programme aims to:

1. Foster enjoyment and enrich children's experiences.
2. Develop the children's language learning skills and foster a positive attitude to language learning.
3. Understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of sources.
4. Speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say.
5. Increase the children's cultural awareness.

Teacher Guidelines

MFL is taught to all children in Key Stage 2, following the Language Angels scheme of work. We believe that pupils learn more effectively if they are enjoying what they are doing. ICT is used across the school to support and motivate the children's learning and also reinforces pronunciation.

Curriculum planning is carried out by Mrs Carlton and Miss Bloomfield, who teach the Spanish lessons, in line with the scheme of work. In the medium term, planning is completed for each new topic to be covered, and then further planning is completed on a lesson-by-lesson basis. This is checked periodically by the MFL subject leader.



The scheme of work assumes no previous knowledge of the language although it is planned for progression as pupils go through the school, ensuring a basic knowledge of a wide variety of topics by entry into Key Stage 3 and offering tasks of increasing complexity as pupils grow.

Teaching and Learning Styles

In Key Stages 1 and 2 children will have followed a literacy programme and will have knowledge of English, including grammatical awareness and knowledge of some grammatical terms. The scheme of work takes account of this and consolidates and builds on this work where appropriate. It begins with an in depth focus on phonics allowing the children time to build up their knowledge of sounds. Children are then encouraged to increase their knowledge of how language works and to explore differences and similarities between the new language (Spanish) and English.

Pupils learn in many ways and to accommodate this, a variety of learning styles are used including songs, games, pictures, video and audio material, ICT etc.

Pupils are encouraged to share their experiences of other languages and cultures, and find things out for themselves.

Pupils work individually, in pairs, small groups and in whole class situations according to the activity. Work is mainly oral, but an increasingly number of reading and writing tasks are included as pupils enter Key Stage 2.

Differentiation/Adaptation

We are aware that pupils bring to school different experiences, interests and strengths that will influence the way in which they learn, and we take this into consideration when planning approaches to teaching and learning which will allow all pupils to participate fully and effectively.

The scheme of work is designed to cater for all pupils. It is also designed to be challenging and raise expectations. We recognise that all classes have children of widely differing abilities. For example, some children may be working at a developing level, whilst others may be working at a greater depth. Suitable opportunities are provided for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability and experience of the pupil. We plan for individual needs, adapting to allow all to achieve, building self-esteem and fulfilling our aim to give all pupils the opportunity to experience success in learning and to achieve as high a standard as possible.

This is achieved by, for example:

- setting common tasks which are open ended and can have a variety of responses;
- setting tasks of increasing difficulty (not all pupils complete all tasks);
- grouping pupils according to ability in the room and setting different tasks for each group;

- providing resources of different complexities, matched to the ability of the child;
- using additional resources to support the work of individual children / groups of children;
- using peer support by partnering pupils of disparate ability to complete tasks.

Teaching MFL to Pupils with Additional Needs

All Key Stage 2 pupils at Crabtree Farm Primary School are taught MFL, whatever their ability. It forms part of the school's policy to offer a broad and balanced education for all children. Appropriate learning opportunities are offered and support given to those who require it. In the Treehouse (enhanced provision), a specific SEND group are exposed to a range of languages and cultures and our SEND teaching staff ensure work is set at an appropriate level and a varied range of adapted resources are used effectively.

Links with other Areas of the Curriculum

Learning another language presents opportunities for the reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other curriculum areas. These opportunities can be exploited through aspects of:

- **English:** development of speaking and listening skills, knowledge and understanding of grammar and sentence construction. Opportunities to compare the foreign language (Spanish) with English or another language can be exploited through use of the new alphabet, phonemes, rhyming patterns, sound/spelling links, dictionary work, formation of structures (such as singular/plural, gender, negatives, question forms, position of adjectives, imperatives), intonation, dialogues, poetry, different text types, formation of complex sentences
- **ICT/computing:** materials from the internet and satellite television, video and audio, presentation of data, word-processing
- **citizenship:** the multilingual society, knowledge of other countries and cultures
- **mathematics:** counting, calculations, the time and the date
- **geography:** work relating to the study of other countries, points of the compass, weather
- **science:** work on parts of the body, animals, habitats
- **music:** rhyming, rhythm, singing, composition, world music
- **RE:** international or multicultural work, celebration of festivals, storytelling, calendars, customs

- **history:** work relating to the study of other countries, family trees of famous people

Monitoring and Review

MFL is taught by Mrs Carlton in Years 3 and 4, and Miss Bloomfield in Years 5 and 6, and they are responsible for monitoring the pupils' work and maintaining standards. They are supported in every lesson by the class teacher or teaching assistant, so that they are able to continue the work during other opportunities.

Spanish Themed Day

Crabtree Farm Primary School plans to hold a Spanish Themed day during the spring term. This Spanish themed day is to include activities that relate to real life experiences, food tasting and Spanish dancing and are to support the children's knowledge of Spanish culture as well as giving the children the opportunity to practise their language skills. Many cross-curricular links will be made throughout the day, including:

- **music** - having Mr Hull teach Spanish songs,
- **P.E.** - taking part in a Latin dance class,
- **Art** - children learning about and creating native Spanish art and
- **food for life** - learning about different foods grown in Spain and trying some.

The school was awarded the EMPLAS award in summer 2016, and will continue to deliver Spanish to this high standard.

Mrs Louise Carlton

MFL Subject Leader

January 2025

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