



Learning and Challenge Rooted in Faith

Modern Foreign Languages Curriculum

Curriculum Intent

What is the intent of the Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) curriculum?

At St Benedict's, we believe that the learning of a language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our pupils. It helps them to develop communication skills, including key skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing. The children's knowledge of how language works will be developed and extended. Lessons will enable pupils to make substantial progress in one language. The linguistic skills gained will assist and lay foundations for further language learning. It will provide pupils with the confidence and independence to explore and be able to attempt manipulation of the structure of language. Learning another language gives children a new and broader perspective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own cultures and those of others.

The national curriculum for languages aims to ensure that all children:

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

It is the intention that when children leave St Benedict's Catholic Primary School, they will have a natural curiosity and confidence to explore: other countries, cultures and languages. They will accept that in a multi-lingual society it is a valuable skill to be able to communicate effectively with others in another language. Through the Primary Languages Network scheme, an active learning of languages with a range of teaching methods is implemented to ensure that children are developing their linguistic skills through listening, speaking, reading and writing so that they will be engaged and prepared to continue language learning at Secondary School.

Curriculum Implementation

Children have lessons in Spanish throughout Key Stage 2, using the Primary Languages Network's scheme of work. Areas covered include: number, colours, all about me, games and songs, transport, clothes, portraits, weather, food, pets, space, shopping, sport and holidays. The sequence of lessons is built upon skills and language learnt in the previous years to enable them to advance further.

Our school follows the Primary Languages Network 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, links to appropriate websites.

How does the curriculum overview allow all children to achieve?

- Inclusion is embedded in our practice and teachers regularly review and reflect upon their own practice to ensure progress is made. Teaching is adapted and responds to the strengths and needs of all learners
- Our MFL curriculum is taught using 'Primary Languages Network (PLN)'. PLN has a sequence of detailed lesson plans to support the delivery of the MFL curriculum. The lessons cover a range of skills and knowledge so that children are exposed to all areas of the MFL curriculum and have a broad understanding.
- Lessons are delivered in Key Stage 2 and the Primary Languages Network scheme provides opportunities for interactive lessons with phonic focuses from a native speaker, songs, rhymes, actions, video clips all to make the lessons interactive and engaging for children.

How is prior knowledge revisited?

- The sequence of lessons revises and revisits prior learning of skills and language to ensure that the learning is secure.
- The sequence of lessons is built upon skills and language learnt in the previous years to enable them to advance further and ensure knowledge is embedded in the child's long-term memory.

Children are taught 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.
- Learn through aural, oral then written form following pedagogical research into language acquisition at Primary age.
- Compare phonic word structures and discuss with growing pronunciation knowledge understanding that English phonics can differ to different languages.
- Engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help.
- 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.

How is assessment used effectively?

Assessment is used consistently and strategically to evaluate children's progress, knowledge and understanding. It is a valuable tool used by teachers to be able to identify individual strengths and areas for development to inform next steps in planning and teaching. Teacher, peer and self-assessment, oral and written feedback and formative and summative assessments recorded on Target Tracker inform next steps, interventions, amendments and provision to ensure children are supported and extended.

What enrichment opportunities are offered in Modern Foreign Languages?

- Children have the skills and knowledge and know how important a high-quality language knowledge is in understanding the world and cultures around them. They will be aware that MFL is a vital skill in today's multi-cultural world.

Curriculum Impact

What does Impact look like?

- Children will demonstrate knowledge and understanding from their relevant starting points.
- Children have a range of skills and knowledge that meets the requirements of the 2014 National Curriculum.
- Within KS2, children are confident and competent, and can use their knowledge to communicate through reading, writing and speech in Spanish.
- Children are aware of a variety of different cultures and understand the importance of being able to communicate in today's multi-lingual society.
- Children have an age appropriate awareness of Spanish.
- Our MFL curriculum ensures that children develop the skills to communicate with another in a different language, specifically, Spanish. They will have the foundations to develop these skills within secondary school, giving them a valuable future skill that they may use as they enter the work-place.