

Colvestone Primary School

Modern Foreign Languages Policy

Spanish

2013

This policy document sets out the school's aims, principles and strategies for the delivery of the Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) entitlement. It will form the basis for the development of MFL in the school.

“Learning a language enriches the curriculum. It provides excitement, enjoyment and challenge for children and teachers, helping to create enthusiastic learners and to develop positive attitudes to language learning throughout life. The natural links between languages and other areas of the curriculum can enhance the overall teaching and learning experience. The skills, knowledge and understanding gained can make a major contribution to the development of children’s oracy and literacy and to their understanding of their own culture/s and those of others.”

The Key Stage 2 Framework for Languages (DfES 2005).

Rationale

At Colvestone Primary School we believe that learning a Modern Foreign Language will provide all pupils with a valuable educational, social and cultural experience. Through our Modern Foreign Languages Policy we endeavour to produce confident children who will achieve their full potential and take responsibility for their own learning. Learning a modern foreign language provides a medium for cross-curricular links and for reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding. We believe that the teaching of a modern foreign language empowers the learner and promotes initiative, confidence and independent learning. Furthermore, it promotes an interest and curiosity about the wider world, providing children with an insight into their own culture and those of others.

Objectives and Aims for pupils at Colvestone

The main objective of teaching Spanish at Colvestone is to promote the development of a child's linguistic competence.

We also aim to:

- foster an interest in learning other languages learning by introducing children to other languages in a way that is enjoyable and accessible to all.
- make our children aware that language has structure, and that the structure differs from one language to another;
- help our children develop an awareness of cultural similarities and differences;
- support oracy and literacy, and in particular develop speaking and listening skills;
- lay the foundations for future language study.
- stimulate and encourage children’s curiosity about language and creativity by experimenting with it.
- give an extra dimension to teaching and learning across the curriculum.

School Organisation

Spanish is taught in Reception to Year 6 on a weekly basis to ensure progression and skills development. In addition to the Spanish dedicated lesson, further short reinforcement activities may be carried out during the school day where time permits. Teachers are to liaise with the Spanish teacher, on how best to continue the learning after the dedicated lesson.

Children are taught specific skills, concepts and vocabulary in a weekly dedicated Spanish lesson.

The Curriculum

Spanish is the modern foreign language taught at Colvestone. Language learning activities are planned to encourage the full and active participation of all pupils. This ensures that particular language learning strategies are taught and appropriate skills are practised. The curriculum uses a range of teaching strategies and use of ICT is promoted. The school has subscribed to Linguascope an educational platform which supports children's language learning.

Children are taught to know and understand how to:

- ask and answer questions;
- use correct pronunciation and intonation;
- memorise words;
- interpret meaning;
- understand basic grammar;
- use dictionaries;
- work in pairs and groups, and communicate in the other language;
- explore life in another culture.
- ICT is used where appropriate to enhance teaching and learning.
- links are made with curricular themes and children are taught key words and phrases related to their year group theme.

Modern foreign languages and inclusion

At Colvestone we teach a modern foreign language to all children, whatever their ability. A modern foreign language forms part of the school curriculum, to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our modern foreign language teaching we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make progress. We do this by setting suitable learning challenges and responding to each child's different needs.

Assessment for Learning

During Spanish, class teachers are to remain in the lesson to help facilitate the learning experience. The teacher will assess the children's progress informally during the lessons through observation and, where appropriate, writing. This will inform future planning and support teaching and learning. Observations and assessment of children's Spanish learning and development are to be made and recorded. Observation and assessments are to be used to inform future report writing.

Monitoring and Review

The MFL leader monitors the teaching and learning in this subject. As part of a curriculum visit governors have the responsibility of monitoring overall progression and achievements in MFL.

The MFL lead also liaises with a local secondary school, so that they are aware of the modern foreign language experience of our children when they move to the next phase of their education.

Committee	Curriculum
Last review date	September 2013
Next review date	September 2014

Progression

Progression takes the form of increasingly demanding grammatical structures. For example,

- nouns with definite/indefinite article le stylo/un stylo the pen/a pen
- nouns with appropriate adjective un stylo rouge a red pen
- verbs in the first person j'ai un stylo I have a pen
- verbs in the third person il/elle a un stylo he/she has a pen
- verbs with nouns and adjectives. Il/elle a un stylo rouge he/she has a red pen