



LOUDWATER COMBINED SCHOOL – Primary Languages Policy

Vision

At Loudwater Combined School we believe that foreign language learning provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for pupils. Pupils develop communication and literacy skills that lay the foundation for future language learning. They develop linguistic competence, extend their knowledge of how language works and explore differences and similarities between the foreign language (Spanish) and English. Learning another language raises awareness of our multi-lingual and multi-cultural world and introduces an international dimension to pupils' learning, giving them an insight into their own culture and that of others. Spanish lessons provide many opportunities for cross-curricular links and for reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other subjects.

Intent

The 2014 National Curriculum for Primary Languages aims to ensure that all children:

- Understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources.
- Are able to 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.
- Can 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.

In addition, the Primary Languages curriculum aims to support our school's Curriculum Policy and seeks to:

- Promote high standards in speaking, listening, reading & writing
- Enable children to be aware of the importance of and participate in the arts, humanities and related cultural themes;
- Provide equality of access and the opportunity for all pupils to make progress;
- Prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experience of adult life and participation in society.
- Provide an appropriate balance of spoken and written language and lay the foundations for further foreign language learning at KS3 and beyond. As pupils progress in their learning they will also write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt.

Implementation

At Loudwater Combined School Spanish is taught across KS2, led by a Class Teacher with subject specialism. The curriculum is delivered in 2 x 30 minute lessons per week, allowing pupils sufficient time to interact with the language and consolidate language learnt. Cross-curricular links are sought at every opportunity to ensure the high profile of language learning is maintained and its relevance and usefulness continuously emphasised. This is reflected in the signage and displays around our

school. We also recognise the importance of discussing and learning about the culture of a Spanish-speaking country we may encounter on our journey and will embrace these opportunities.

The curriculum is planned effectively, building on prior learning and providing continuity and progression. It promotes an enjoyment of learning and a commitment to learning and achieving.

Through the provision of rich and varied activities, we aim to:

- Engage all learners
- Broaden horizons
- Provide discussion and debate opportunities linked to the wider curriculum
- Support and challenge learners

We seek to ensure that:

- Planning addresses the needs of all learners within the class
- Planning provides coverage of all aspects of the National Curriculum
- Planning is regularly monitored to ensure quality

The aim of our Primary Languages curriculum is to enable children to:

- Listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding to songs, rhymes and games
- Speak in sentences using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures
- Engage in conversations, ask and answer questions, express opinions and respond to those of others, and seek clarification and help
- 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
- Write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, expressing their ideas clearly
- Use a bi-lingual dictionary
- Describe people, places, things and actions in speech and in writing
- Present information and ideas orally to a range of audiences (adults and visitors in school, peers, parents, whole-school assemblies)
- Use Spanish meaningfully in context
- Be prepared for future language learning

Teaching and Learning

We teach the four strands of speaking, listening, reading and writing. We also aim to teach understanding of basic grammar rules, including: feminine, masculine and the conjugation of high-frequency verbs; key features and patterns of the language; how to apply these to build sentences; and how these differ from or are similar to English. We use a multi-sensory and kinaesthetic approach to teaching. Research has also shown that physical responses planned into lessons help to improve enjoyment, provide opportunities for reinforcement through actions, help memory through actions, increase confidence as movement and games can provide safe ways of speaking aloud and it helps learning through creating a positive atmosphere. Use of ICT is also integral to our curriculum planning and delivery. We make the lessons as entertaining and enjoyable as possible as we realise that this approach serves to develop a positive attitude to learning a modern foreign language. We build children's confidence through praise for any contribution that they make in the foreign language, however tentative.

Resources

To ensure the curriculum is delivered in the most effective and engaging way, a range of resources is used including but not limited to:

- Bernadette Clinton's BCC Languages Spanish Primary scheme
http://bcclanguages.co.uk/?page_id=543
- <https://rockalingua.com>
- BBC Languages video and audio clips
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/4FDrPw6jzlxpYKq0WsbS8J3/mfl-ks2-spanish-mi-madrid>
- Authentic Hispanic poems, rhymes, songs, videos and articles

Impact

Our Primary Languages and wider curriculum ensures that children develop a genuine enthusiasm for language learning and are prepared for language study at KS3. Children also develop their knowledge of where Spanish is spoken throughout the world. Varied language experiences, including focus Hispanic-themed days, ensure that languages are celebrated throughout the school community whilst providing a context for language learning and developing the children's understanding and appreciation of different cultures and the value of foreign language skills in the context of their personal wellbeing and many future career opportunities.

Assessment

Assessment for learning permeates all our teaching and allows us to adapt, change and target our teaching to the precise point and pace of children's learning thus ensuring our teaching is effective and learning is maximised. In addition to this, assessment will take the form of:

- Looking at pupils' work, especially over time as they gain skills and knowledge
- Observing how they perform in lessons
- Talking to pupils about what they know

Assessment allows us to give quality feedback to children and celebrate with them their progress. It allows them to be involved and take control of their learning. Through regular feedback, pupils are provided with information about their learning and their next steps.

The children are assessed continually throughout the year, with the teacher giving feedback orally and through written marking where relevant. This process is supported by the end of KS2 statements in the National Curriculum 2014. This, as well as regular assessment tasks, will inform completion of Target Tracker statements and steps.

Curriculum Monitoring

The curriculum is monitored by the Subject Lead for Primary Languages, SLT and Primary Languages Governor through:

- Lesson observations
- Moderating children's work
- Book scrutinies
- Learning walks
- Pupil interviews
- Governing Body Curriculum & Admissions Committee meetings and reports

Equal Opportunities

At Loudwater Combined School we are committed to promoting equal opportunities irrespective of socio-economic background, gender, disability and ethnicity in all areas of the curriculum. We believe all children should have access to and participate in the learning of languages and be supported in this process.

Inclusion

At Loudwater Combined School, a foreign language forms part of the school's commitment to providing a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our foreign language teaching, we provide learning opportunities that enable all children to make progress. We do this by setting suitable learning challenges and responding to each child's different needs. Our resident Spanish specialist teacher ensures children's full involvement and engagement within lessons and celebrates the efforts and achievements of all.

Role of the Subject Leader

- To write a subject development/action plan, informed by the whole school development plan
- Recorded outcomes, which link directly to spoken, listening and written tasks in children's Spanish books, are monitored termly by the subject leader and SLT to ensure curriculum coverage.
- The subject leader attends specialist courses and disseminates good practice to staff where relevant, providing appropriate language and vocabulary to enable all KS2 Class Teachers to reinforce basic language such as: greetings (for register taking), numbers, dates and simple instructions.

Parents

Parents are encouraged to inform the school about the languages they speak and to support activities connected with Hispanic-themed days or other language events. Parents are invited to attend class and value assemblies where the children can share their foreign language learning.

April 2021

This policy will be reviewed in line with the governors' policy review schedule.