

# **Modern Foreign Language (MFL) Policy**

## **St Christopher's Primary School**

### **Introduction**

St Christopher's is a multi-cultural school with children from many parts of the world. Within our school there are over 30 different home languages spoken and we have a large number of children for whom English is actually their modern foreign language! However, with that in mind, at St Christopher's we follow national Curriculum requirements and teach a foreign language to all our KS2 children as part of our school curriculum. We believe that a Modern Foreign Language prepares pupils to participate in a rapidly changing world in which work and other activities are often carried out in languages other than English. The rise of international commerce means that pupils need to be equipped with the skills needed by the international workplaces. Increased capability in the use of MFL promotes initiative, confidence and independent learning and encourages diversity within society. We have chosen to teach Spanish as our Modern Foreign Language.

### **The Significance of Modern Foreign Languages**

Modern Foreign Languages are defined as the most widely used languages around the world to communicate ideas and receive information. Languages are part of the cultural richness of our society and the world in which we live and work. Learning languages contributes to mutual understanding, a sense of global citizenship and personal fulfilment. Pupils learn to appreciate different countries, cultures, communities and people. By making comparisons, they gain insight into their own culture and society. The ability to understand and communicate in another language is a lifelong skill for education, employment and leisure in this country and throughout the world. Learning languages gives pupils opportunities to develop their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills and to express themselves with increasing confidence, independence and creativity. Pupils explore the similarities and differences between other languages and English and learn how language can be manipulated and applied in different ways. Also, the study of other languages will support the development of literacy skills in a pupil's own language.

### **Aims**

In delivering MFL at St Christopher's, we aim to foster an enjoyment of languages and to develop children's experience of language acquisition and encourage curiosity about languages. We aim to develop their understanding of what they hear and read as well as their ability to express themselves in speech and writing. Additional aims are to extend their

knowledge of how language works and strengthen their sense of identity through learning about other cultures and comparing them with their own.

### **Timetabling and planning**

Spanish is delivered to Key stage 2 children in year 3,4,5 and 6 for 30 minutes per week and taught by class teachers across the year groups.

<b>Year 3</b>	<b>YEAR 4</b>	<b>YEAR 5</b>	<b>YEAR 6</b>
Meet and greet	Revision of Year 3	Revision of Year 4	Revision of Year 5
Name	Numbers 1 – 31	Weather	Time
Week days	Family	Food and drink	Number 1-100
Numbers 1 – 12	12 Action Verbs	Parts of the body	Clothes adj. agreement
Colour	10 Emotions	Class objects	Rooms
Shapes	Gender (masc./fem.)	Verbs / Noun	Dictionary skills
12 Action Verbs	Pets	High frequency phrases	High frequency phrases
Seasons	Months	Dictionary skills	Short comic story
Alphabet	Alphabet	Songs	Phonics

### **Teaching Strategies**

Each Spanish topic is taught for 6 weeks, with the first and second week focussing on key vocabulary and oral skills. Spanish is taught in a multi-sensory way, such as; songs, flashcards, books and images during each lessons. All year groups have a “key vocabulary” folder to support them further, with the written word and image for each topic taught, in Spanish and English.

Although individual recording of children’s work is not compulsory, St Christopher’s has chosen to provide children with their own exercise books for recording to help them to remember key vocabulary from topics already taught. The MFL curriculum is an important factor when teaching a Modern Foreign Language, since although children are quick to learn the new vocabulary they can easily forget unless regular revision takes place. These books stay with the children from Year 3 through to Year 6.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The MFL Subject leader monitors planning and delivery on a termly basis. Monitoring is carried out by the head teacher or a member of senior management in the following ways:

- Informal discussion with staff and pupils
- Planning scrutiny
- Work sampling
- Classroom observation
- Reviews

This policy will be was agreed by Performance and Standards committee on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

To be reviewed in September 2020.