

CANTRELL PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL



MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES POLICY

April 2022

At Cantrell, we believe that a high-quality modern foreign language education equips pupils with an understanding of the world and their place within in. We value the celebration of language and culture and encourage all pupils to appreciate and respect the diversity in both our school and the wider community. We want language learning to be memorable and meaningful and aim to develop linguistic skills through a variety of interactive and engaging lessons. We want our children to embody our core values; to be ready, resilient, resourceful, reflective and respectful. The intent of our language teaching is to equip children not only with the ability to express spoken and written thoughts in another language, but to develop an international and inclusive outlook. We want our pupils to leave Cantrell using language to help them think creatively, confidently and curiously.

1. Intent

This policy document sets out the school's intent, implementation and impact for the delivery of Modern Foreign Languages (Spanish). This policy will be reviewed at regular intervals and updated as necessary by the Modern Foreign Languages Co-ordinator.

- 1.1** A high-quality modern foreign language education equips pupils to use deep thinking and creativity to understand and change the world. Modern Foreign Languages has links with English and Geography.
- 1.2** The core of MFL is to be able to express ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, in which pupils are taught to explore the relationship between language and identity.
- 1.3** Through learning about Spanish culture, we hope they will develop an international outlook and an enhanced understanding of their place within the world.
- 1.4** We intend that through learning Spanish, pupils will develop both an awareness of cultural differences and an appreciation of diversity in society.
- 1.5** Building on this knowledge and understanding, pupils are equipped for life in modern Britain, in which work and activities increasingly involve using languages other than English.

2. Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of learning a modern foreign language at Cantrell are:

- to foster an interest in learning other languages;
- to introduce young children to another language in a way that is enjoyable and fun;

- to make young children aware that language has structure, and that the structure differs from one language to another;
- to help children develop their awareness of cultural differences in other countries;
- to develop their speaking and listening skills; to lay the foundations for future study.

2.2 To achieve this aim we will follow the 2014 National Curriculum for computing which aims to ensure that by the end of Key Stage 2 all pupils:

- understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources
- 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
- 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.

3 Modern Foreign Languages Implementation - Organisation of Teaching and Learning

3.1 At Cantrell Primary School we teach Spanish to children in Key Stage 2 for 45 minutes to an hour a week.

The subject is currently taught by **Sara Simon**, a qualified Spanish teacher.

3.2 A modern foreign language forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children.

We use a variety of techniques to encourage the children to have an active engagement in the modern foreign language. These include games, role-play and songs (particularly action songs). We use Spanish Interactive Whiteboard resources and the internet to enable children to hear the intonation of native Spanish speakers and to become familiar with the use of Spanish vocabulary in conversation. We frequently use gesture and mime to accompany new vocabulary in the foreign language, as this serves to demonstrate the foreign language without the need for translation. We emphasise the listening and speaking skills over the reading and writing skills. We also use a multi-sensory and kinaesthetic approach to teaching, i.e. we try to introduce a physical element into some of the games, as we believe that this serves to reinforce memory. We make the lessons as entertaining and enjoyable as possible, as we realise that this approach serves to develop a positive attitude in the children to the learning of modern foreign languages. We build children's confidence through constant praise for any contribution they make in the foreign language, however tentative.

4 Modern Foreign Languages Curriculum

4.1 The curriculum that we follow is published in our long-term curriculum plan.

- to speak competently and creatively for different purpose;

- to understand, recall and respond to speech;
- to participate in conversation;
- to explore ideas through role play;
- understand basic grammar;
- use dictionaries;
- work in pairs and groups and communicate in Spanish;
- to look at life in another culture.

5 Modern Foreign Languages Impact

Inclusion

5.1 At Cantrell we teach a modern foreign language to all children, whatever their ability. 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 using the Key Stage 2 Framework for languages allows us to consider each child's attainment and progress against expected levels.

5.2 When progress falls significantly outside the expected range, the child may have special educational needs. Through differentiated teaching style and organisation, we can take additional or different action to enable the child to learn more effectively. This ensures that our teaching is matched to the child's needs.

6 Assessment and recording

6.1 We assess the children in order to ensure that they make good progress in this subject. We do this informally during the lessons through observation, questioning and self-assessment. This helps the practitioner to note what the children can do and what they need to do next. The Spanish teacher uses four objectives to evaluate the progress of each child in:

- speaking;
- listening and responding;
- group discussion and intonation;
- role-play.

7 Resources

- MFL teacher's own flashcards
- Puppets and soft toys
- Songs & videos on the internet

8 Monitoring and review

8.1 Teaching and learning in Spanish is monitored by a subject coordinator. The subject coordinator reports to the governing body upon the progress of children in Spanish. The

governors' curriculum committee has the responsibility of monitoring the success of the teaching in Spanish.