

St Mary's CE Middle School – Curriculum Statement (*Spanish*)

Inspire today to shape tomorrow – Kindness, Fairness, Aspiration



Intent

The curriculum aims for Spanish are to introduce pupils to the language and the language that surrounds it. We hope that children will develop the skills required to understand, analyse and retain the language they learn.

We use the textbooks Viva 1 and 2 as the base of our learning but include a variety of other resources to ensure a comprehensive approach is taken in regards to the pupils' learning both in school and at home.

We cover 6 topics over Years 7 and 8: talking about yourself, your spare time, your school, your family, your holidays and what technology you use. Throughout the two years we cover the grammar structures needed and use a variety of resources in school to assist and encourage independent progression. Each child has their own text book, dictionary and verb table book available to them in class.

Implementation

We cover the following skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, knowledge about language and language learning strategies. Many of these skills are useful for other subjects too. My key focus is ensuring that all pupils understand that their progress is unique to them and that with time and frequent practice, they will see their Spanish improve.

Formal assessment takes place once a term but as a class we discuss our mistakes, how improvements can be made and if there are any holes in our knowledge every lesson. We learn from each other: discussing how we retain the vocabulary, what differences and similarities there are between languages and what mistakes we made in an exercise and why.

In lessons, there is a balance between the skills they require for taking their formal examinations in KS4 and beyond and learning about the cultural delights that language learning can offer.

Impact

By learning Spanish, pupils will understand how effort and practice really shape their progress, that attempting tasks and making mistakes are essential to improve. They will develop a positive attitude to reflecting on their work and understanding their mistakes. Pupils will learn to decode the language, seek out rules to improve their work and relish the exceptions that exist rather than get frustrated by them. They will be open to new ideas and cultures and hopefully will enjoy a life of adventure and travel, discovering the joys of talking to people in their language and all the benefits that can come from that. Whatever they go on to do, having knowledge of foreign languages can be an asset in any walk of life.