

Languages

Intent

The intention of the Languages Curriculum at Northfold School is that children are taught to develop an interest in learning another language in a way that is enjoyable and stimulating. French was originally the language chosen, however after listening to the children and where they go on holiday, it was decided to introduce Spanish, taking a phased approach. We encourage children's confidence, and we strive to encourage children's curiosity and knowledge about the French and Spanish culture, making comparisons to their own lives where appropriate.

We aim to embed the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing necessary to use and apply their learning in a variety of contexts.

Implementation

Children in EYFS and KS1 are introduced to French and Spanish very informally, when learning about other countries and the world around them. In KS2, children are taught French or Spanish in discreet lessons. We use the National Curriculum objectives as a basis for learning and our Scheme of Work ensures coverage of key topics and progressively builds on vocabulary and skills.

Children are encouraged and expected to explore sounds and rhythms of the given language and join in songs and repetitive phrases. Songs and games are primarily used to help improve memory and recall.

Children are expected to speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary and phrases. Accurate pronunciation and intonation are encouraged.

Children will be given opportunities to engage in conversation and practise general greetings and begin to express likes and dislikes.

Children will be taught basic grammar rules, including masculine, feminine and plural forms as well as the conjugation of common high frequency verbs.

Children will be supported in their learning of French or Spanish in many different ways for example, displays of key vocabulary, songs and games, practical activities, word mats and banks and visual prompts.

Impact

Upon leaving Northfold, children will have a comprehensive understanding of the French or Spanish language and be aware of some of the similarities and differences between their own language and the language they are learning. This knowledge will provide a firm basis on which they can further develop their understanding of foreign languages when they move on to high school.

All children are assessed against the learning intentions for French or Spanish and this data is recorded. Pupils will be supported or challenged accordingly.

Languages are monitored by the subject leader who use things such a book scrutinises, lesson observations staff discussions and pupil interviews.