

DALLAM CP SCHOOL



LANGUAGES POLICY

Reviewed by Governors	
Reviewed by staff	Mrs Welsby
Date of implementation	January 2023
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Signed by Chair	
Signed by Co-ordinator	

Languages Policy

Intent

A high quality languages education should aim to engage children and deepen their understanding of the world. Developing knowledge of another language enables children to interpret, create and exchange meaning within and across cultures and may create opportunities for them later in life.

Modern foreign language teaching has been compulsory in KS2 since the 2014 National Curriculum was published. Dallam Primary school has chosen to teach Spanish as its modern foreign language because many of the families whose children attend our school travel to Spanish speaking countries for their holidays. We recognise and embrace that other languages, both verbal and non-verbal are utilised amongst our school population.

Learning is based upon the 2014 National Curriculum for Modern Foreign Languages and lays the foundations for other language learning, (irrelevant of the language taught at KS3) as the skills needed to progress and succeed will be in place.

At Dallam Primary we aim 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.
- 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.

Implementation

Children in KS2 are taught by an external teacher who is fluent in Spanish. The class teacher remains in lessons to help develop his/her own skills in this subject.

They receive the following amounts of specialist teaching:

- Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 = one hour each fortnight
- Designated provision years 3 - 6 = 30 minutes weekly

Lessons cover objectives from the 2014 National Curriculum and are designed to progressively develop all four skills in Spanish; reading, writing, speaking and listening. In years 3 and 4 the amount of speaking and listening lesson content will be much greater than that of reading and writing; this will balance out in years 5 and 6.

The Spanish teacher uses a variety of techniques to encourage children to engage in the language learning process, including the use of puppets, games, role play, songs, and ICT to record oral exchanges. Teaching staff have access to a bank of resources to help them reinforce the skills taught by the Spanish teacher.

Class teachers reinforce some of the new skills and vocabulary taught by the external teacher through access to a Primary Spanish teaching subscription website (with pronunciation sound files, and so on) which offers creative, purposeful and memorable learning for all learners.

Amongst other things, children will be taught to:

- Ask and answer questions in Spanish
- Use correct pronunciation
- Memorise words
- Interpret meaning
- Understand basic grammar
Use dictionaries
- Explore the culture of Spanish-speaking countries.

Additional languages

At Dallam Primary, we pride ourselves on embracing a total communication approach when teaching language. Languages can take on many forms both verbal and non-verbal. We have a group of children (above the national average) for whom English is an additional language. The school population encompasses at least 14 different first languages which, where possible, we represent within our resources, displays and teaching. We also have an increasing group of children in school who are yet to develop early language skills and need support to express themselves verbally. Makaton is widely used for these children throughout the school day. It is a unique language programme that uses symbols, signs and speech to enable all people to communicate. All children are actively encouraged to use Makaton for greetings and when using good manners during the school day.

Impact

Children who attend our school may not always have the opportunity to experience other cultures outside of their own. However, by learning a foreign language, they are given a small window into different countries and their cultures and this can help to deepen their understanding of the world around them.

Assessment in KS2 is in four key areas:

- speaking
- listening
- reading
- writing

Children are assessed each term by the Spanish teacher using level descriptors linked to the relevant term and year group. By the end of year 6 it is expected that most children will be able to:

- Converse briefly without prompts.
- Listen to and understand the main points from a small passage.
- Give a presentation in a clear, audible voice.
- Read aloud with confidence and expression.
- Read and understand the main points from a short written passage.
- Write several sentences from memory.
- Demonstrate understanding of and respect for cultural diversity.