



Statement of Practice for Languages

INTENT

Place of Languages in the Curriculum.

At St. Matthew's, Languages is seen as an important part of the curriculum. St Matthew's uses the Language Angels scheme of work and resources to ensure we offer a relevant, vibrant and ambitious foreign languages curriculum that will inspire and excite our pupils using a wide variety of topics and themes. The teaching of languages endeavours to nurture children's self-esteem and appreciation of another culture so they are ready to take their place in our global society.

The National Curriculum framework states that all schools should provide the foundation for children to study a language further and should focus on enabling children to make substantial progress in one language. At St. Matthew's children have the opportunity to study and enjoy Spanish.

Languages is embedded in all of our school values of love, faith, hope, justice and honesty, and also helps embed the fundamental British values. Learning a language is integrated into values such as global citizenship, mutual respect and acceptance.

Planning

At St Matthew's, we follow the National Curriculum Programme of Study for Languages in Key Stage 2 and teach through the four key areas: speaking, listening, reading and writing. Units are divided across the year groups so that they follow a clear progression through the Language Angels Scheme ensuring that the language builds year on year. The yearly overview outlines the units covered in each year group and also states how many weeks each unit should be taught over.

To further support planning and preparation, teachers use Knowledge Organisers for each topic to ensure that delivery and teaching mirrors the objective and core knowledge required. Knowledge Organisers also develop teachers' subject knowledge alongside the children's. In addition to this, teachers can use Language Angels unit overviews, lesson plans and teacher support notes to prepare and plan a unit.

IMPLEMENTATION

Timetabling/unit planning

Across the academic year, children are taught five Spanish units, each lasting around six weeks. Typically, sessions last between 30-45 minutes. In Summer 2, there is no set Language Angels unit to follow. This half term will be used as a **Celebration of Modern Foreign Languages**. Children will consolidate key learning and explore an additional modern foreign language through our cultural afternoon.

Activities / teaching and learning

At St. Matthew's, we want children to develop a love for languages. It is therefore taught through games, songs, raps, role play and illustrations in order to ensure that the teaching of languages is engaging and purposeful. Teachers use Language Angels and other resources to build on previous knowledge in language lessons throughout the year, continuing to recap, revise and embed previously learnt language, whilst building on all four language skills: **listening, speaking, reading**

and **writing**. In each module, children are first taught to speak and understand key vocabulary. This is then used to construct meaningful sentences which include basic grammatical rules. Children are encouraged to take risks and make mistakes in languages, this helps to build a resilience that can be transferred to other areas of their learning journeys.

Recording of children's work

The National Curriculum outlines that children can understand and respond to both spoken and written target language. All children have a Languages exercise book that remains with them throughout the Key Stage. Here, children can record core vocabulary and practise what they have learnt whilst implementing the punctuation and grammar from that language. The exercise books can also record creative projects and visual prompts to aid spoken language in class.

Checking for understanding to support teaching and learning

Assessments in languages are both formative and summative and focus on the four key language skills – listening, speaking, reading and writing. Teachers and children have access to knowledge organisers which are linked to each topic. These knowledge organisers not only show teachers what children are expected to know by the end of a unit, but also enable children to become more independent learners by providing them with support during key tasks.

Inclusion

Languages is accessible for all children and has acceptance and celebration at its core. Language Angels provides differentiated activities to enable all children to access the learning. At St. Matthew's Languages is a subject that all children can engage with and participate in.

Supporting Teaching Knowledge

CPD is provided for staff where needed. All staff are given appropriate resources to support their subject knowledge. This builds up their knowledge in how to teach and deliver the topics. If a teacher is unsure, then the subject leader is made aware of any rising concerns and is available to support and help.

Resources and Budgets

Resources are reviewed annually and replaced and purchased as are needed so that children have appropriate and good quality equipment to support their learning.

IMPACT

Assessment

At the end of each Language Angels Unit, teachers use the end of block assessment that assesses the children's learning in the four key areas. This is always session six for each unit. Teachers will continually refer back to the medium term objectives when making a judgement. Teachers will then input their assessments for each unit on Insight and make a decision as to whether children are working towards or have met the expected standard.

At St. Matthew's, we aim for all children to love and appreciate the value of learning an additional language. By fostering a culture of respect and curiosity about other cultures, we aim to lay the foundation for children to develop their learning further. By equipping them with an understanding, core vocabulary, basic grammatical rules and confidence, children are better prepared to start the next stage of their learning and pursue the opportunity that studying a foreign language offers.