

St. Augustine's MFL Policy

Introduction and Rationale

This policy outlines the teaching and learning of Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) at St. Augustine's Primary School. The school's policy for Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) is based on the National Curriculum (2014) and reflects St. Augustine's' commitment to fostering language learning and promoting global values through the language study and development of intercultural understanding. Learning a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for all pupils. It also provides a medium for cross-curricular links and for reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other subjects. Children learn how to use languages to enable access to ideas and experiences from a wide range of people, communities and cultures. In addition, understanding a modern foreign language increases a child's understanding of their own language. The process of learning a foreign language reinforces fluency and understanding of English grammar, syntax, sentence structure.

Our Aims

In EYFS and Key Stage 1, St Augustine's aims to:

- Develop an enthusiastic and positive attitude to other languages and language learning.
- Raise awareness of aspects of children's own language/s and make comparisons with other foreign languages, thereby enriching their understanding of language as a whole.
- Enjoy a degree of success in learning a new language (Spanish) through a limited use of classroom language to build language awareness and confidence.
- Increase cultural understanding by learning about different countries and their people.
- Form a sound basis for further language learning at Key Stage 2 and beyond

In KS2, St. Augustine's aims to:

Develop an enthusiastic and positive attitude to other languages and language learning.

- Develop language skills and language learning skills.
- Raise awareness of aspects of children's own language/s and make comparisons with the foreign language, thereby enriching their understanding of language as a whole.
 - Become increasingly familiar with the sounds and written form of a modern foreign language.
 - Enjoy some degree of success in learning a new language.
- Allow children to grow in confidence and competence to understand what they hear and read, and to express themselves in speech and in writing as well as ask questions.
 - Increase cultural understanding by learning about different countries and their people, and working with written materials from those countries and communities.
- Form a sound basis for further language learning at Key Stage 3 and beyond.

The National Curriculum

St. Augustine's follows the National Curriculum guidelines for MFL learning as stated below.

Speaking and Listening

- Listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding
- Explore the patterns and sound of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of the words
- Engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; respond to those of others; seek clarification and help
- Speak in sentences using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures
- Present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences
- Appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language

Reading and Writing

- Develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when you they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases
- Read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing
- Broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words introduced into familiar written material, including using a dictionary
- Describe people, places, things and actions orally and in writing
- Write words from memory and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly

Grammar

- Understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied

Our approach to language teaching

We recognise that children within each class may have widely different experience of language speaking and learning. Ability and confidence will be varied and we seek to provide learning opportunities to match the needs of the individual learner. All pupils will have the opportunity to develop languages capability. St. Augustine's promotes equal opportunities and fair distribution of languages resources. MFL lessons are planned with the following points in mind:

- The learning objective is shared with the class to ensure the pupils know what they are learning.
- Communicative and interactive approaches are used with an emphasis on active learning
- Much of the language teaching should take place in the target language. The teacher presents a language model for oracy and literacy skills.
- Children are given the opportunity to practice and produce language individually, in pairs and in groups.
- A variety of learning activities are used. These include songs, stories, games, role-play, drama and interactive ICT.
- New language is related back to children's existing knowledge.
- Children are encouraged to explore the differences and similarities between the new language and any language they already know
- Authentic sources are used alongside teacher modelling to provide a rich and varied input of the language. Children hear and interact with the sounds and patterns of the new language.
- The school can use ICT to expose pupils to native speakers. ICT can be used across the school to motivate pupils and to support teachers with model pronunciation. This will enable the school the Framework for Languages' principles to develop language learning.
- Extra-curricular opportunities are provided, for example through a Spanish language club.