

Spanish at Trevisker School



An Overview of Modern Foreign Languages



Why teach a Modern Foreign Language?



At Trevisker, we believe that the learning of a Modern Foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our pupils. It helps them to develop communication skills, including key skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing, as well as extending the children's knowledge of how languages work. The linguistic skills gained also assist and lay foundations for further language learning. Studying another language gives children a new and broader perspective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own cultures and those of others.

'Languages play a vital role in giving young people the skills, understanding and confidence to support employment and prosperity.' British Council, Language Trends 2021

'The number of people learning a language in Britain has risen twice as fast as the rest of the world in the last year.' The Guardian, December 2020

Why Spanish?



'Spanish is the second-most spoken native language in the world with nearly 500 million native speakers.'

'Spanish is the third most-used language on the internet.'

'Spanish has official status in 21 countries.'

'In 2019 Spain was the most popular destination for people from the UK with more than 18 million visitors.' Wikipedia June 2021

'At A level, Spanish entries have increased by almost 5% from 2018, overtaking French as the most popular language for the first time since A levels began...Since 2005, French and German have both experienced steep declines, but Spanish has grown almost year on year. Spanish also enjoys a higher percentage of GCSE pupils continuing to A level...almost one in every ten candidates of GCSE Spanish chooses to continue with the language to A level.' The British Council, Language Trends 2020

Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of learning Spanish at Trevisker School are to:

- Foster an interest in learning other languages
- Introduce young children to Spanish in a way that is enjoyable and fun
- Stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language

- Encourage children to be aware that language has structure and that the structure differs from one language to another
- Help the children develop their awareness of cultural differences in other countries
- Develop speaking and listening skills
- Lay the foundation for future study

The children are taught how to:

- Ask and answer questions
- Hold a brief, simple conversation in Spanish in pairs and in groups
- Memorise words and phrases
- Interpret meaning
- Use bi-lingual dictionaries
- Look at the similarities and differences between life in Spanish-speaking countries and Britain.

Teaching Spanish at Trevisker School

Spanish is taught to children in KS2 by our class teachers or HLTAs. To promote an active learning of languages a range of teaching methods are implemented to ensure that the children are developing their linguistic skills through listening, speaking, reading and writing in order to be secondary ready. This includes games, role-play, songs, rhymes, stories, drama activities, grammar tasks, engaging with video clips, air writing, investigating sentence structure, dictionary work, book making, use of apps on iPads and many more creative ways to extend, embed and combine language skills.

The Curriculum



Our school follows the Primary Languages Network scheme of work as a basis and the Oak Academy lesson units to sequence and support the delivery of the subject. The Primary Languages Network is a live scheme which is continually updated and revised in order to meet with current curriculum standards. See Curriculum Progression for MFL.

Continuing Personal Development

The MFL subject lead will attend (as part of the Primary Languages Network) specific coordinators' CPD and all staff involved in the delivery of MFL will attend training sessions provided by the Trust.

Assessment

Summative and ongoing assessments of language skills are made throughout KS2. Pupil progress is tracked at regular intervals, with informal feedback given to pupils and class teachers.

Links to EYFS

In the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) pupils 'learn to recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries' as part of 'Understanding the World' (Development Matters, September 2020).

Links to other subject areas

The teaching of Spanish at Trevisker School makes links with many other subject areas during lessons. Just a few examples of this include literacy (poetry writing, character descriptions, simple story writing, speaking and listening opportunities, use of bilingual dictionaries, etc) maths (learning to count and recognise numbers, learning times tables in Spanish, simple addition and subtraction sums in Spanish), music (learning and performing simple songs in Spanish – whole school as well as KS2 lessons), RE (learning about and celebrating festivals in Spanish-speaking countries, such as Christmas and Mardi Gras) and PE (for example, taking part in traditional Spanish playground games), Geography (learning about the cultures and locations of Spanish speaking countries) and Art and Design Technology (illustrating their own Spanish versions of story books and cultural art such as mask-making etc.) The teaching of languages further enhances our rich, thematic and meaningful curriculum.