



## Languages Policy

### St Mary's and Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academies

#### *Our Vision*

*We are the many hearts that follow Jesus, the one accord.  
"Through the strength of God's love and the power  
of prayer*

*we are guided to do whatever He tells us. Many  
hearts,  
one accord, growing and learning together for life to  
build the kingdom of God."*  
(School Mission Statement)



### Rationale for teaching languages

Why we teach languages?

Learning a foreign language is liberation from insularity and provides an opening to other cultures. A high quality languages education will foster pupils' curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. At St Mary's and Our Lady of Grace we believe that language teaching should provide the foundation for learning further languages, equipping our children to study and work in other countries.

### Aims and purposes

The teaching of a foreign encourages a positive attitude to learning an additional language, opening our minds to other cultures and ways of life.

At KS2 the teaching of languages ensures that all pupils:

- Understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources
- Speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions and 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
- Discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in another language

### Organisation

We aim to deliver a foreign for one hour a week. This is delivered through a 30 minute high quality teaching and learning timetabled lesson; encouraging a variety of multi-sensory approaches to actively engage all pupils, with a further 30 minutes to be embedded throughout the week across all areas of the curriculum (e.g. registration, lining up, P.E), to rehearse and consolidate language skills.

We also look for other ways to enrich language learning and multi-cultural education. We celebrate the European Day of Languages every September. We provide children with the opportunity to visit France on a residential visit in key stage 2 (every 2 years).

## **The Curriculum**

We follow the guidance given in the New National Curriculum. We teach our children to:

- listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding
- explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words
- engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help
- speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures
- develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases
- present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences
- read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing
- appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language
- broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary
- write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly
- describe people, places, things and actions orally and in writing

- understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied, including (where relevant): feminine, masculine and neuter forms and the conjugation of high-frequency verbs; key features and patterns of the language; how to apply these, for instance, to build sentences; and how these differ from or are similar to English.

### **Inclusion and equality**

We believe that all children should be given the opportunity to learn an additional language. We work with due regard to the equality act 2010 to make sure that all our pupils regardless of ethnicity, ability, home language and special educational needs are included and are able to access language lessons. We make sure that all pupils are given the opportunity to thrive and learn an additional language. Through our language teaching we provide opportunities that enable all pupils to make progress. We do this by setting suitable learning challenges and responding to each child's different needs.

### **Assessment and recording**

Formative assessment takes place throughout the language learning that takes place throughout the week and is used to inform and adapt planning.

Summative assessment is to be reviewed using the skills grid each half term and emailed to the language co-ordinator.

### **Monitoring and review**

We monitor teaching and learning in the same way as we do with all other subjects that we teach in school. The coordinator also reports to the governing body on the progress of the children in MFL in the same way as all other subjects.

The coordinator also liaises with the local secondary schools, so that they are aware of the language experience of our children when they move to the next phase of their education.

This policy was agreed by staff on: December 2020

This policy was approved by Governors on:

This policy will be reviewed by the Governors on: December 2023

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Chair of Governors