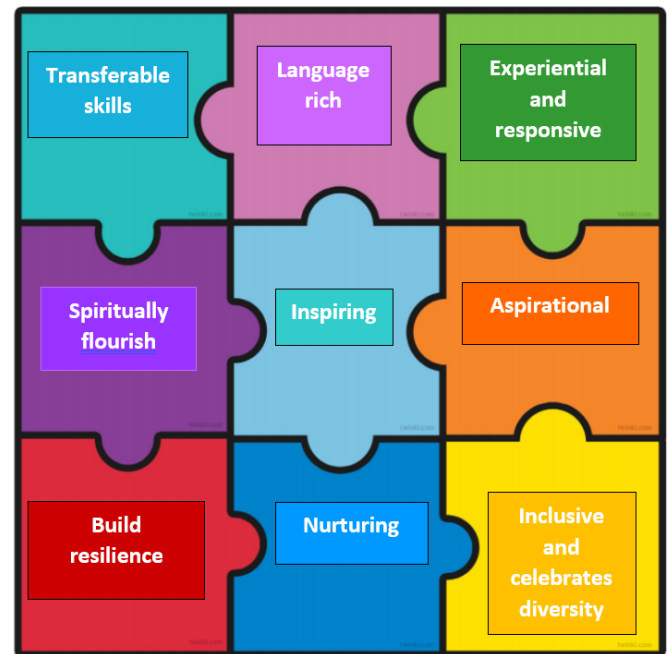


# An Overview of the Spanish Curriculum at St Michael's



*The Lord says, 'For I know the plans I have for you .... plans to give you hope and a future.' Jeremiah 29 verse 11*

Learning Spanish at St Michael's is an important educational, social and cultural experience for our pupils. Teaching Spanish clearly demonstrates the importance we place on communication and specifically, being able to communicate in a second language. It also reinforces how much we value our diverse school community; embracing the language skills and cultural expertise of our pupils who have English as an additional language. Furthermore, teaching a Modern Foreign Language positively supports tolerance and diversity within our school community. Teaching Spanish allows us to develop transferable skills that may be advantageous to our pupils in the future and is part of a range of experiences we offer to develop Cultural Capital and expand children's hopes and aspirations.



We aim to provide a Spanish curriculum that is exciting, enjoyable and challenging. We aim for the curriculum to foster positive attitudes to language learning throughout life and for it to deepen pupils' understanding of the world. Our curriculum is designed to support and encourage children to:

- Understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources.
- Speak with increasing confidence and accuracy
- Find ways of communicating what they want to say through discussion and asking questions
- Write at varying lengths and for different purposes and audiences using the grammatical structures they have been taught.
- Develop their knowledge of Spanish geography, history and customs of Spain and other Spanish speaking countries.

We firmly believe that 'learning a foreign language is a liberation from insularity and provides an opening to other cultures.' (*National Curriculum, 2017*) and that learning a modern foreign language can enrich the overall teaching and learning experience.

All children in Key Stage 2 have a weekly Spanish lesson taught by a Spanish specialist. Spanish is taught using a range of approaches. All children should feel well supported to achieve, whilst developing independence for their own learning. Spanish word games, songs, vocabulary lists, role play and a range of texts are widely used to engage as many pupils as possible by appealing to a wide range of learning styles.

Assessment is carried out against a set of statements covering the knowledge and skills set out in our curriculum (see progression of learning). These statements come under the strands of speaking, listening, reading and writing. Greatest emphasis will be given to speaking and listening, thus giving children maximum exposure to the target language. We aim to lay the foundations for further language learning and for teaching to allow pupils to understand and communicate ideas, facts and feelings on familiar and routine matters.

We measure the impact of our curriculum through assessment for learning opportunities, work scrutiny, pupil voice feedback, end of unit assessment summaries and learning observations. We know our MFL curriculum has impact when we see

- Pupils engaged in lessons, demonstrating enjoyment and enthusiasm.
- Pupils making good progress in their ability to understand and decode Spanish using their reading skills.
- Pupils who can confidently perform role-plays with peers and speak in Spanish with or in front of their peers and other adults.
- Pupils who can articulate their knowledge of Spanish culture.
- Pupils are keen to share the knowledge they have acquired.

Pupils' good behaviour is a result of their positive engagement in the curriculum on offer. Pupils attain well, make outstanding progress from their starting points and aspire to be the best they can be. We know we have succeeded when pupils leave year 6 fully prepared for the next stage of their learning journey.