



**St John's Church of England  
Academy**

**Belonging Believing Becoming**



# Primary Languages Policy

**Date of Review: July 2021**

**Date of Next Review: July 2022**

**Responsible Group: School Policy**

Belonging

Perseverance

Respect

Forgiveness

Truth

Aspiration



## Primary Languages Policy

**‘If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart.’**

**Nelson Mandela**

### Introduction

The purpose of the curriculum at St John’s Church of England Academy is to prepare our children for life in the 21st Century.

Our Curriculum is focussed on ensuring that all our children have the best chance to achieve our Christian Vision of **‘Belonging, Believing, Becoming’**, which is rooted in **Mark 4:30-32**, **‘The Parable of the Mustard Seed’** and **The Diocese of Gloucester Academies Trust** and **The Church of England’s vision to ‘Live Life in all its fullness’** rooted in **John 10:10**.

St John’s Church of England Academy is an inclusive school where all people are valued and nurtured to become the best version of themselves and responsible members of God’s family. We do not tolerate discrimination of any kind and our curriculum celebrates the diverse nature of our society, enabling children to embrace the world around them and encourage adherence with British values.

### Subject Intent

St John’s Church of England Academy understands that learning a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our pupils. We recognise the importance of our children having a knowledge and understanding of the wider world, in order to broaden their horizons and to recognise and appreciate life outside of the Forest of Dean.

As part of the requirement to teach KS2 pupils a language, pupils at our school will be taught Spanish. We believe our languages curriculum opens pupils up to a variety of cultures and helps to foster pupils’ curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world, creating potential opportunities in the future for visiting, studying and working abroad.

Our Languages Curriculum is taught through the Language Angels scheme of work and resources to ensure we offer a relevant, broad and ambitious curriculum were children will feel able to continue studying languages beyond KS2.

## Curriculum Drivers

Through the delivery of our curriculum, we want our children to be ready for life beyond St John's. We aspire for them to be:

- **Articulate**
- **Aspirational**
- **Curious**
- **Appreciative**

## As an International Speaker we want our children...

To foster a curiosity and understanding of the world.

## Aims

By the time pupils leave the school, they will be able to:

- 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.
- Write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using a variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt.
- Discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied.

## Legal Framework

This policy has due regard to statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2013) 'Languages programmes of study: key stage 2'
- Equality Act 2010

## Roles and responsibilities

The **headteacher** is responsible for:

- Holding the subject leader to account for pupils' attainment.
- Assisting the subject leader in reviewing and updating this policy annually.
- Supporting the subject leader in identifying CPD opportunities for themselves and classroom teachers.
- Promoting the needs of all pupils and ensuring they can access a well-rounded and inclusive curriculum.

The **subject leader** is responsible for:

- Preparing policy documents, curriculum plans and schemes of work for the subject.
- Attending training courses and undertaking CPD opportunities for themselves.
- Reviewing changes to the national curriculum and advising staff on new developments and assisting in their implementation.
- Working with classroom teachers to plan lessons and ensure continuity and progression from year group to year group.
- Monitoring the learning and teaching, providing support for staff where necessary.
- Encouraging staff to provide effective learning opportunities for pupils.
- Helping to develop colleagues' expertise in the subject.

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- Organising the deployment of resources and carrying out an annual audit of all resources.
- Liaising with teachers and holding them to account for the attainment achieved.
- Communicating developments in the subject to all teaching staff.
- Leading staff meetings and providing staff members with the appropriate training.
- Organising, providing and monitoring CPD opportunities in the subject.
- Ensuring common standards are met for recording and assessment.
- Advising on cross-curricular and extra-curricular activities.
- Collating assessment data and setting new priorities for development in subsequent years.
- Identifying areas for improvement and ensuring these are included in a subject specific action plan and form part of the SDP.
- Liaising with subject leaders from local Primary and Secondary Schools.

**The classroom teacher is responsible for:**

- Working with the subject leader to ensure the high-quality delivery of the curriculum and continuity between year groups.
- Acting in accordance with St John's Church of England Academy's Policies.
- Ensuring progression of pupils' skills with due regard to the national curriculum.
- Planning engaging and interesting lessons, ensuring a range of teaching methods are used to cover the content of the national curriculum.
- Monitoring the progress of pupils in their class and reporting this on an annual basis.
- Reporting any concerns regarding the teaching of the subject to the subject leader or a member of the senior leadership team (SLT).
- Undertaking any training that is necessary in order to effectively teach the subject and improve practice.
- Reporting on pupils' progress at parents' evenings and in end of year reports.

**The Specialist Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCO) is responsible for:**

- Liaising with the subject leader in order to implement and develop the subject throughout the school.
- Organising and providing training for staff for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).
- Advising staff how best to support pupils' needs.
- Advising staff on the inclusion of objectives in pupils' individual education plans.
- Advising staff on the use of teaching assistants in order to meet pupils' needs.

**The Curriculum**

**Pupils in KS2 will be taught 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.

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- 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 conjunction 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.

### **Cross-Curricular Links**

Wherever possible, the languages curriculum will be used to provide opportunities to establish links with other curriculum areas.

#### **Geography**

- The children will learn some of the geographical features related to France; especially through finding out about Coleford's Twin Town St Hilaire De Riez.
- The children will learn some of the geographical features related to Spain.

#### **History**

- The history curriculum looks at global events and how these have affected modern life.

#### **PSHE**

- In PSHE, pupils will be taught about different cultures to expand their knowledge of the world and the people within it.

### **Teaching and Learning**

- The subject leader oversees all planning and teaching by observing lessons and participating in planning sessions with classroom teachers.
- Classroom teachers are encouraged to collaborate and work together to ensure continuity between year groups, and that engaging lessons take place.
- The subject leader and classroom teachers will use their own expertise to enhance and build on the aims of the national curriculum.
- Pupils will be taught to describe associated processes and key characteristics in common language, as well as understand and use technical terminology and specialist vocabulary.
- Pupils will undertake independent work, and have the opportunity to work in groups and discuss work with fellow classmates.
- In order to best meet the needs of our disadvantaged children and children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, we ensure that every child has their barriers to learning identified and discussed. Quality First Teaching is our main driver to try to close the gap and appropriate interventions are considered, planned and reviewed termly.

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## **At St Johns Church of England Academy Spanish is taught through the Language Angels Scheme.**

### **Planning**

- All relevant staff members are briefed on the school's planning procedures as part of staff training.
- Spanish is taught as a discrete lesson and as part of cross-curricular themes when appropriate.
- Teachers will use the key learning content in the Language Angels Scheme of Work
- Lesson plans will demonstrate a balance of interactive and independent elements used in teaching, ensuring that all pupils engage with their learning.
- There will be a clear focus on direct, instructional teaching and interactive oral work with the whole class and targeted groups.
- Long-term planning will be used to outline the units to be taught within each year group.
- Medium-term planning will be used to outline the vocabulary and skills that will be taught in each unit of work, as well as highlight the opportunities for assessment.
- Medium-term plans will identify learning objectives, main learning activities and differentiation.
- Short-term planning will be used flexibly to reflect the objectives of the lesson, the success criteria and the aims of the next lesson.
- Short-term planning is the responsibility of the teacher. This is achieved by building on their medium-term planning, taking into account pupils' needs and identifying the method in which topics could be taught.
- All lessons will have clear learning objectives, which are shared and reviewed with pupils.

### **Assessment and Reporting**

Throughout the year, teachers will plan on-going assessment opportunities in order to gauge whether pupils have achieved the key assessment criteria.

#### **Assessment will be undertaken in various forms, including the following:**

- Talking to pupils and asking questions
- Discussing pupils' work with them
- Observing practical tasks and activities
- Pupils' self-evaluation of their work
- End of unit assessments

Formative assessment, which is carried out informally throughout the year, enables teachers to identify pupils' understanding of subjects and informs their immediate lesson planning.

Parents will be provided with a written report about their child's progress during the summer term every year.

Pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SENDCo) will be monitored by the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities coordinator.

### **Equipment and Resources**

- The subject leader is responsible for ensuring that all resources and equipment are sufficiently maintained as well as for liaising with the school business manager in order to purchase further resources.
- The subject leader is responsible for maintaining an inventory of resources.
- Class teachers can discuss the need for new resources with the subject leader.
- Class teachers to check they have the resources needed for a unit of work in a reasonable time before starting the learning.

### **Equal opportunities**

- All pupils will have equal access to the curriculum.
- Gender, learning ability, physical ability, ethnicity, linguistic ability and/or cultural circumstances will not impede pupils from accessing all lessons.
- Where it is inappropriate for a pupil to participate in a lesson because of reasons related to any of the factors outlined above, the lessons will be adapted to meet the pupil's needs and alternative arrangements involving extra support will be provided where necessary.
- All efforts will be made to ensure that cultural and gender differences will be positively reflected in all lessons and teaching materials used.
- We aim to provide more academically-able pupils with the opportunity to extend their thinking through extension activities such as problem solving, investigative work and research.

### **Impact**

The impact and measure of our MFL curriculum is to ensure that children at St John's Church of England Academy are equipped with the skills and knowledge that will enable them to be ready for the curriculum at Key Stage 3 and for life as an adult in the wider world.

### **Monitoring and review**

- This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the subject leader, in collaboration with the headteacher.
- The subject leader will monitor teaching and learning in Spanish at St John's Church of England Academy, ensuring that the content of the national curriculum is covered.
  - Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all teaching staff.