

**St Monica’s Catholic Primary School**

**Hoxton Square, London N1 6NT.**

**MFL Policy**

**Agreed by the Governing Body in:**

**February 2015**

**Review Date: February 2016**

**Person(s) Responsible**:

**RE Co-ordinator**

This policy sets out the school’s aims, principles and strategies for the teaching and learning of Modern Foreign Languages. It is underpinned by our Mission Statement and reflects the view of the importance of acquiring an additional language, specifically Spanish. As directed by the Government and Local Authority, Spanish is taught in KS2 from Years 3 to 6. The school, where possible, uses community and other links to expose pupils to native speakers. We currently have one Spanish-speaking volunteer and an HLT who now facilitates the teaching and learning of Spanish.

**MFL in the Primary Curriculum**

As set out in the Curriculum a high-quality language education should encourage children’s curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world.

Therefore:

* the teaching should enable pupils to express their ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and in writing,
* it should also provide opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes and learn new ways of thinking; and
* language teaching should provide the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries.

**CURRICULUM AIMS**

**In teaching Modern Foreign Languages we aim to:**

* foster enjoyment and enrich the children’s experience
* develop the children’s language learning
* understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of sources.
* speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity,
* find ways of communicating through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of pronunciation and intonation
* begin to write at varying lengths; for different purposes and audiences; using the variety of grammatical structures
* discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in the language studied
* increase the children’s cultural awareness
* lay the foundations for further study in KS3 and beyond; and
* satisfy local and government requirements, following the National Curriculum for Modern Foreign Languages.

**ICT**

The Staff and Governors of St Monica’s Catholic Primary School believe that pupils learn more effectively if they are enjoying what they are doing, and lessons made as interactive as possible.

Therefore, ICT is used:

* to motivate pupils,
* to support Teachers with model pronunciation,
* to provide interesting, interactive lessons, and
* to engage with the global Spanish-speaking community.

**PLANNING FOR MFL**

Spanish is currently taught to all Key Stage 2 classes. Teaching is largely made up of discrete language lessons, with additional teaching through integration of Spanish in daily classroom routines, such as taking the register, or use of dual-language signs across the school and classroom labels.

The children are taught how to:

* ask and answer questions,
* sing songs; list to, and read stories and poems,
* use correct pronunciation and grammar,
* memorise words,
* interpret meaning,
* understand basic grammar,
* make use of bi-lingual books and dictionaries,
* work in pairs and groups and communicate in a foreign language,
* explore things from another’s perspective, giving insight into the people, lives and traditions of other cultures.

**ASSESSMENT, RECORDING AND REPORTING**

Children’s progress is assessed informally and continuously during the lessons by the Teacher evaluating their progress in the Strands of Speaking and Listening and reading and writing. It is considered important that progression is measured and ensured through skill levels; evidenced in the *Language Ladder*; and not by endlessly growing lists of vocabulary.

In addition, at the end of each unit, every child completes an assessment task and awarded a best-fit level.

**INCLUSION**

All children are given equal opportunities to participate and develop their own skill in MFL

regardless of ability, gender, race or beliefs. Both boys and girls are actively encouraged to participate in all activities and to develop a positive attitude towards languages.

Learning a language provides valuable support for children with special educational needs, where they can learn and participate with their peers.

Children with other languages spoken at home are encouraged to use them for educational benefit and parents are welcomed into school to share their language and culture during our Black History Month celebrations and as part of our International Evenings.

**RESOURCES**

The school has a variety of resources available including children’s reference books, Teachers’ resources, books and bi-lingual dictionaries, CD ROMs and audio/visual materials. There is a section in the non-fiction library for read-alone dual language books.

Resources are kept centrally and the MFL subject leader is responsible for maintaining them, monitoring their use and organising storage. Resource purchasing is in accordance with normal school procedures and is based upon the MFL budget.

Computer software is available to support children’s individual work and can be accessed from all the school computers.

**Role of the Subject Leader**

The role of the Subject Leader is in line with other subject leader roles as outlined in job

descriptions.

The subject leader will:

* oversee the development of MFL in the school
* oversee the HLT
* provide guidance to colleagues where necessary
* keep up to date with local and national developments in MFL and pass on relevant information to colleagues
* be responsible for the organisation of and maintenance of resources
* review and monitor the success and progress of the planned scheme of work

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXTENDED SCHOOLS**

St Monica’s provides an After School Spanish Club comprising 12 students from Years 2 to 5 for those children wanting to continue or expand their language learning.