

“Everybody deserves the chance to benefit from the cultural and economic advantages language skills can bring. Learning languages also helps to develop tolerance and understanding between people from different linguistic and cultural backgrounds”.

MFL- Spanish Intent

At Ivy Bank Primary school, our teaching of Spanish is based on the National Curriculum 2014 and aims to inspire our learners to develop a genuine interest and curiosity about foreign languages, especially the Spanish language and culture. Learning a second language ensures all children have an equal chance of experiencing and developing knowledge of a different culture, as well as providing children with the opportunity to explore the world around them. Throughout their time at Ivy Bank, children will develop key skills, including their ability to understand, listen and respond to others orally in Spanish and in written form. We aim to provide our pupils with the foundation and confidence to become life-long language learners, as well as developing each child’s cultural capital.

To achieve this our curriculum is delivered through stories, songs, speech and writing. It is designed to ensure that children are continuously given opportunities to build upon their prior knowledge and bridge back to what they already know, to ensure there is progression and help the children to know and remember more.

MFL - Spanish Implementation

In KS1, although Spanish will not be explicitly taught, they will have the opportunity to participate in a lunchtime club where they will learn basic Spanish vocabulary through songs, games and rhymes. They also participate in cultural events and celebrations as part of the whole school. In KS2, Spanish is taught in 30-minute lessons, on a two-week cycle to years 3 and 4. Year 5 will be taught Spanish weekly and Year 6 will learn Spanish in the Summer term. The lessons are delivered by the language specialist teacher. Each lesson involves the introduction to new vocabulary, phrases and aspects of grammar and phonics, with a strong emphasis on developing their speaking, listening, reading and writing skills.

The curriculum is taught in an enjoyable and interactive; we use songs, games, picture prompts, language booklets and stories that will enhance the learning experience. Every lesson will have an element of bridging back to prior learning to ensure this learning is built upon.

The teaching of Spanish is inclusive and all pupils are expected to participate and have access to the same curriculum. Our school offers an interesting and varied curriculum, providing all children with a range of opportunities for them to reach their full potential, regardless of their starting points. This is achieved through scaffolded activities or specifically designed word mats to reduce cognitive load. At Ivy Bank, we believe that it is important to give SEND children the opportunity to show their understanding in Spanish in a way that is appropriate to them. Our EAL children’s culture and language are acknowledged and celebrated within classroom practice.

World Languages Day

We hold an annual celebration of languages and culture on World Languages Day, which raises awareness and appreciation of the wider world and the diversity of cultures throughout our school. Children participate in exciting activities and challenges linked to other countries and cultures, which raises their enthusiasm for language learning and builds their cultural capital.

MFL - Spanish Impact

Children at Ivy Bank Primary School look forward to their Spanish lessons and by the end of their time at the school they will have a basic introduction to Spanish culture, language and will have broadened their cultural capital. They will be able to understand a simple level of spoken Spanish and be able to have simple conversations with others by asking and answering questions. We are committed to engaging with parents and carers and believe that they should be actively involved in their child's learning. We encourage children and parents to refer to and use the language booklets on the school website.

In 2023-2024 Spanish was successfully rolled out across every year group, with each year group now following the curriculum for their chronological year group. Each year group will have termly topics with appropriate cross-curricular links.

We measure the impact of our curriculum through formative and summative assessment. The language specialist teacher carries out regular assessments in the lesson to assess each child's understanding and progress of the curriculum. These include bridging back at the beginning of each lesson to review prior learning which demonstrates how well children can remember and recall key knowledge. This enables the teacher to identify gaps in knowledge or address any misconceptions. At the end of each unit, the children will be assessed on the 4 aspects of language (reading, writing, speaking and listening) through a quiz to establish how well the children have remembered their prior learning over time. Evidence of children's progress is organised in their Spanish exercise books, which are carried through from Year 3-6.

In addition, the MFL subject leader will continually monitor the impact of modern foreign language teaching is having on the children's learning and ensure the knowledge taught is retained and continually revisited. They will continually liaise with the language specialist teacher and keep the Spanish learning journey display relevant and up to date. They will also carry out pupil voice, book looks and observations.