

## Modern Foreign Languages Curriculum Statement September 2021

### Intent:

At Brookfield, we believe that the curriculum offer should bring to life our vision of “overcoming barriers for a brighter future.” The best way to prepare our young people for the future is to ensure all our young people have access to an outstanding educational experience, tailored to individual need which supports their next steps post-16.

*"A different language is a different vision of life."*

Federico Fellini

The intention of the MFL curriculum at Brookfield School is that pupils are taught to develop an interest in learning other languages in a way that is non-threatening, enjoyable and stimulating. We strive to embed the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing necessary to enable pupils to use and apply their learning in a variety of everyday contexts and lay the foundations for potential future learning.

MFL at Brookfield School aims to:

- Foster pupils’ curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world and different cultures.
- Enable pupils to express their ideas and thoughts in another language
- Provide opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes
- Equip students with skills to understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of sources
- Increase 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

## **Implementation:**

Through the use of pupil and staff questionnaires Spanish was chosen as the focus for MFL at Brookfield School. Pupils were given the opportunity to identify their preferred language based on previous experiences of exposure to language in and out of learning environments from a list of French, German, Italian and Spanish. Spanish was a clear favourite based on family holidays and previous taster lessons in school. It was decided that by focusing on one rather than multiple languages throughout the year, confusion between languages could be avoided and that pupils could gain a broader understanding of the culture and use of the language.

MFL will not be taught in weekly, discrete lessons to avoid rejection of the subject due to low self-esteem and fear of failure, but will be embedded into the school curriculum throughout the year using a variety of different methods within MFL focus weeks:

Method 1: Pupils to be exposed to an array of key vocabulary through the use of signage around school.

Method 2: Period 1 during focus weeks will introduce new vocabulary through use of fun and engaging activities

Method 3: Subject teachers will explore a variety of key learning opportunities surrounding the language and culture of countries during designated focus weeks each half term.

Method 4: School lunches will offer a variety of choices with ingredients and/or recipes associated with Spanish culture.

Pupils are encouraged and supported to develop their speaking and listening skills through conversational work, activities and games.

- Displays are used to remind children of key vocabulary
- Practical activities, songs and games are used to help improve memory and recall.

- Dates to be written in Spanish throughout focus week.
- In the classroom, whenever possible, instructions are given in Spanish during focus weeks to expose pupils to the language as much as possible and in day-to-day contexts.
- Visual prompts are used to support children in translating new vocabulary.
- Learning mats are available for pupils to refer to, to reinforce and support their learning and recap previous vocabulary and grammar conventions.

Pupils will build up a passport of core grammar and vocabulary throughout the 3 years and linked focus weeks across all subject areas in school within the following content areas: Basic vocabulary; Christmas; Introductions; School life; Family and friends; Home; Daily routine; My town; Food; Clothes. Identity and culture will be explored throughout the school during focus weeks.

From this pupils will be able to:

- listen to a variety of forms of spoken language to obtain information and respond appropriately
- transcribe words and short sentences that they hear with increasing accuracy
- initiate and develop conversations, coping with unfamiliar language and unexpected responses, making use of important social conventions such as formal modes of address
- express and develop ideas clearly and with increasing accuracy, both orally and in writing
- speak coherently and confidently, with increasingly accurate pronunciation and intonation

**Impact:**

A developed understanding of the vocabulary and grammar of a MFL, Spanish.

A secure understanding of the key techniques and methods for each key area of the MFL curriculum: speaking and listening, reading and writing.

A progression of understanding, with appropriate vocabulary which supports and extends understanding.

Confidence in discussing their own work and identifying their own strengths and areas for development.

An enriched, varied and engaging integrated cross-curricular curriculum which develops a range of language skills within the topics listed above through the use of familiar subjects.

Clear progression of skills in line with expectations set out in the MFL progress tracker.

That pupils, over time, develop a range of skills and language enabling them to communicate in Spanish with another person.