



Rationale

'To learn a language is to have one more window from which to look at the world.'

Chinese Proverb

'Learning another language is not only learning different words for the same things but learning another way to think about things.'

Flora Lewis

At Neston we want all our children to love Spanish! Our Spanish curriculum has been carefully crafted to enable our children to develop their skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing Spanish and to explore the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. We want our children to enjoy their Spanish lessons, embrace the linguistic and cultural opportunities they are presented with and to cherish the memories that are made.

With around 470 million native speakers globally, Spanish is the second most widely spoken language in the world. Learning another language can be a daunting prospect, but the earlier that children begin to learn a language the less intimidated they feel by it and the more eager they are to learn. We want our children to feel confident that they can fulfil their ambitions- they could be the translators, foreign correspondents or intelligence operatives of the future!

Intent

At Neston we believe that high quality language lessons give children a broader perspective of the world, and encourages them to understand both their own culture and those of others.

Our Spanish curriculum is designed to develop the children's vocabulary, as well as explore the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. We want our children to learn from other cultures, respect diversity and appreciate what they have. In Year 3 children learn about Spain's location and its major cities, the landmarks of Madrid and the produce that is grown and exported to British supermarkets. In Year 6, the geographical features of a Spanish-speaking country is the focus. Across Key Stage 2, there are opportunities to explore and compare how Christmas and Easter are celebrated, as well as Spanish-speaking festivals such as the Day of the Dead.

Implementation

Our Spanish curriculum covers a range of topics and themes, and focuses on the National Curriculum skills of speaking, listening, reading, writing and cultural understanding.



Spanish is taught to each year group in Key Stage 2 in three termly blocks by a teacher with a background in Spanish. During each weekly one hour lesson, previous learning is revised and consolidated and new vocabulary introduced. Children actively participate in lessons through singing songs and learning rhymes, playing games, completing sentence building activities, role-playing conversations and working with Spanish dictionaries to develop their vocabulary.

Lessons are differentiated to provide the appropriate level of support and challenge. Classrooms have key vocabulary displayed and all children have a knowledge organiser detailing information about the topic that they are learning.

A pathway of progression is built into our Spanish curriculum. It starts with learning individual words and phrases and leads to the children being able to manipulate the language and make their own word choices.

Impact

Ongoing feedback is provided throughout all lessons. Formative assessment takes place through self or peer assessment and teacher marking. All this information is used to inform and develop the weekly lesson plans, allowing areas of weakness or misconceptions to be addressed and for appropriate challenges to be set.

Children's Spanish books provide evidence of their learning. These books move up through Key Stage 2 with the children, so that previous learning is accessible.