

Boutcher C of E Primary School Subject Story Spanish (Modern Foreign Languages)



Intent

At Boutcher, we ensure that all children in Key Stage Two have an opportunity to learn a foreign language. We believe that children really enjoy learning to speak another language and feel that the earlier a child is exposed to a second language, the faster the language in question is acquired. We also believe that it is a good idea to introduce a new language to children when they are at primary school as they tend to be less self-conscious about speaking aloud at this stage in their development. It is widely believed that the early acquisition of a foreign language facilitates the learning of other foreign languages later in life. Moreover, learning another language raises awareness of the multilingual and multicultural world in which they live and gives an insight into their own culture and those of others. An understanding of others is an integral part of our Christian beliefs and helps foster an ethos of care and consideration for others.

Implementation

At Boutcher, we teach Spanish to all Key Stage Two children. Lessons are taught fortnightly to ensure progress and skills development, children are taught specific skills, concepts and vocabulary in 30-minute lessons with a dedicated external Spanish teacher. The curriculum that we follow is based on the Key Stage Two Framework for Languages. This is split into three core strands of Oracy, Literacy and Intercultural Understanding, providing progression over four years. There are also two cross cutting strands: Knowledge about Language and Language Learning Strategies. These provide the children with the skills and tools they need for language learning. Units of work incorporate these objectives. Lessons are based around a topic e.g. Introducing Ourselves; Food, and allow progression in vocabulary and sentence structures. Lessons include a variety of techniques to encourage the children to have an active engagement in language learning: these include games, role-play, songs, puppets, mimes, actions and stories. The emphasis is on enjoyment so that children develop a positive attitude towards language learning and grow in confidence. In Year Six, some children are offered the opportunity to participate in a German exchange trip. This provides children with the chance to live and experience life in another cultural and language context. Children attending this trip will learn some German words and phrases and become familiar with the families they are going to be staying with.

Impact

- Children are provided with opportunities to learn about different cultures and speak different languages through our exchange programme with a school in Germany. This opportunity provides the children with a unique experience to understand life in another country and supports our aim of creating a love for other languages.
- A dedicated Spanish teacher works alongside the MFL co-ordinator to plan, deliver and assess pupils learning. Most assessment is formative and used to support teaching and learning to inform planning.
- The Modern Foreign Languages co-ordinator frequently assesses the impact of MFL, ensuring the intent is implemented and that languages are taught effectively and meaningfully.

What can I expect to see in a Modern Foreign Languages lesson at Boutcher?

- Children learning about languages in a whole class context where all children are engaged and where children have access to their learning.
- Scaffolds are given to children that require support, often word banks, pictures and visual aids to support them in their learning.
- Children having the chance to develop their oracy, literacy and intercultural understanding through having an active engagement in their learning.

Examples of our outstanding learning



Year Six on an exchange trip to Germany.



Year Three learning about birthdays with a dedicated Spanish teacher who comes to teach lessons at Boucher.

What voice do pupils have?

Children are regularly asked for feedback on MFL lessons and their exchange trip to Germany.

Examples of pupil voice:

Year 3 children:

“My favourite thing about learning Spanish is that I can speak with my auntie who is fluent in Spanish.”

“I like that I can say my birthday in a different language.”

Year 6 children:

“I learnt from my trip to Germany that sports like bowling are played differently.”

“I loved learning about the things that are different in German schools compared to schools in England.”

How do children’s skills progress?

An example of skills progression from Year 3 – 6

Key Skills	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Listening	Understand a few familiar spoken words and phrases – e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> teacher’s instructions days of the week a few words in a song greetings numbers colours countries and nationalities 	Understand a range of familiar spoken phrases – e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> basic phrases concerning myself, pets and colours, countries and nationalities. Respond to a clear model of language.	Understand the main points from a spoken passage made up of familiar language – e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> short rhyme or song basic telephone message 	Understand the main points and some of the detail from a short-spoken passage – e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> sentences describing what people are wearing an announcement
Speaking	Say and/or repeat a few words and short simple phrases – e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How old are you? What’s your name? naming classroom objects Know how to pronounce some single letter sounds. Imitate correct pronunciation with some success.	Answer simple questions and give basic information – e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> when is your birthday? brothers and sisters pets Know how to pronounce all single letter sounds. Show an awareness of sound patterns. Be clearly understood.	Ask and answer simple questions– e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> taking part in an interview/survey about pets/favourite food talking to a friend about hobbies Talk about personal interests. Know how to pronounce some letter strings.	Take part in a simple conversation. Express an opinion. Know how to pronounce a range of letter strings. Begin to understand how accents change letter sounds. Can substitute items of vocabulary to vary questions or statements. Pronunciation is becoming more accurate and intonation is being developed.

What successes were there in the last few academic years?

- Taking Year Six pupils on educational exchange visits to Germany for a week to provide them with the unique experience in understanding life in another country and creating a love for languages.
- Cross curricular links through children greeting each other in the morning and afternoon in Spanish and count every day in Spanish with the class teacher.
- Having a dedicated Spanish teacher teaching lessons to the pupils frequently so that pupils have opportunities to revisit, make links and connections to prior learning.

What are the priorities in Modern Foreign Languages?

- To ensure that children are building on their learning and cultural development.
- To have awareness of the multilingual and multicultural world in which they live and give insights into our own cultures.
- To continue to develop and audit resources needed for lessons.