

# Beaver Road Languages Policy 2020/21

## **“Purpose of study**

*Learning a foreign language is a liberation from insularity and provides an opening to other cultures. A high-quality languages education should foster pupils’ curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. 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, learn new ways of thinking and read great literature in the original language. Language teaching should provide the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries.”*

-The National Curriculum in England: Key stages 1 and 2 Framework Document. September 2013

## **Context:**

Children at Beaver Road Primary have been learning the Spanish language since November 2019. The school is a 3-5 form entry school with children in Nursery also studying Spanish. The first language of the majority of pupils in the school is English.

## **Vision:**

At Beaver Road we believe that the learning of a language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our pupils. It helps them to develop communication skills, including key skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing. The children’s knowledge of how language works will be developed and extended. Lessons will enable pupils to make substantial progress in one language. The linguistic skills gained will assist and lay foundations for further language learning. It will provide pupils with the confidence and independence to explore and be able to attempt manipulation of the structure of language. Learning another language gives children a new and broader perspective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own cultures and those of others.

## **Organisation:**

Children from Nursery to Year 6 learn Spanish.

Children begin learning Spanish from Nursery where they are introduced to Spanish colours and numbers and progress to learning greetings, days of the week and simple instructions in KS1. Teachers use songs, games and fun characters to explore the Spanish language and embed a love of language learning. This early access to language learning enables the children to develop language acquisition skills from a young age. This facilitates their understanding of the patterns of language and begins to explore how these differ from, or is similar to, English.

In KS2, children develop their knowledge and understanding of Spanish through weekly 20-30 minute lessons taught by the class teacher, which support the core skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing. Through high quality language teaching we provide opportunities for pupils to be able express their ideas and thoughts in Spanish and to understand and respond to speakers, both in speech and in writing. Teachers further embed the speaking of Spanish through daily teaching opportunities such as saying the register in Spanish, giving instructions and singing songs. Spanish lessons provide a variety of sources to model the language, use games and songs to maximise enjoyment and make as many connections to real life situations as possible. Lessons have a balance of speaking, listening, reading and writing. Children record written work in folders, which are passed through the years and become a portfolio of their learning.

**Management and Training:**

The subject is managed by the Languages Co-ordinator. To ensure the language skills of staff are developed and sustained the school are members of the Primary Languages Network. This provides all the materials, resources and support sound files and activities to enable the school to ensure progression in language learning across the four core skills and also the DfE 12 Attainment Targets. The co-ordinator will advise, work with and guide staff when required.

**The Curriculum:**

Our school follows the Primary Languages Network scheme of work. It is a live scheme which is continually updated and revised in order to meet with current curriculum standards. Alongside the planning provided, the network also enriches this through accompanying power points, pod casts (spoken by native speakers) links to authentic literature, songs, games, culture points of reference, links to appropriate websites.

**Teaching and Learning:**

To promote an active learning of languages a range of teaching methods are implemented to ensure that the children are developing their linguistic skills through listening, speaking, reading and writing in order to be secondary ready. Activities can consist of actions, rhymes, stories, song, drama, grammar focus, video clips, air writing, sentence structure, dictionary work, book making and many more creative ways to extend, embed and combine language skills.

**Assessment:**

Informal assessment of progress will be made by the class teacher during lessons through questioning and oral feedback. At the end of a teaching unit children will complete a 'Puzzle It Out' quiz, which supports teachers judgement. Teachers are also required to use Pupil Asset to assess the children they teach. The MFL Subject Leader, with the support of the Arts and Humanities Team Leader, will monitor the effectiveness of the procedures implemented.

**Monitoring:**

Monitoring is carried out by the head teacher, a member of senior management or the MFL Subject Lead, in the following ways:

- ☑ Informal discussion with staff and pupils
- ☑ Planning scrutiny
- ☑ Work sampling
- ☑ Classroom observation
- ☑ Subject enquiry afternoon

**Continuing Personal Development:**

The lead teacher /MFL coordinator attends, (as part of the Primary Languages Network) coordinators' CPD and the annual PLN conference. The MFL coordinator is a member of the network email group and can access the PLN Twitter account , the PLN website (<https://primarylanguages.network/>) , network blog sites and the PLN VLE blog to obtain current and up to date information. All staff have access to the PLN VLE ,all its materials , and lesson by lesson planning .The PLN VLE school user files can be used to share information between staff and the visiting teacher.