



Foreign Languages at Westfields Junior School

A high-quality language education should ignite children's curiosity and broaden their understanding of the world. At Westfields Junior School, our primary goal for the Foreign Languages (FL) curriculum is to offer children a rich and progressive experience. We achieve this by delivering lessons that are diverse and engaging, incorporating games, songs, reading, writing, speaking and listening activities to make language learning both enjoyable and effective. At Westfields Junior School, children have the opportunity to learn Spanish. Previously, French was part of our curriculum and the skills gained here will support the transition to Spanish learning.

In addition to building a strong foundation in the three pillars—vocabulary, grammar and phonics—we offer opportunities to explore the cultures of countries where Spanish is an official language. Within Year 6, we introduce a second foreign language. This broad language exposure not only prepares students for secondary school but also equips them for future language learning and travel. It fosters a deeper appreciation of different countries, cultures and traditions, while promoting acceptance and cultural awareness.

Coverage

- Through our FL curriculum, children have the opportunity to:
- ✓ Engage in speaking and listening, reading and written activities that include: role play, songs, games, spellings, sounds/phonics, celebrations, sentence construction, pronunciation, intonation, grammar and gender (of nouns) work.
- ✓ Learn about the cultures and traditions of Spanish speaking nations and compare these to our own.
- Topic areas for learning vocabulary include but are not limited to: colours, numbers days, months, family, animals, cafes, directions and objects in the class.

Progression

- For the 2025-2026 academic year, Years 4, 5 and 6 will follow the same scheme of work as it will be their second year of learning Spanish.
- As we introduce Spanish across the whole school, it is inappropriate to expect older children to engage with more advanced content without first establishing a strong foundation. However, Year 6 children should not be limited by the same pace and workload as Year 4. Therefore, we have ensured older or those showing aptitude for the language are adequately challenged during lessons.
- The Spanish curriculum will evolve each academic year to ensure steady progression, with all year groups fully aligned to the programme by 2027/2028.
- While each year group has specific topics planned to support progression, we emphasise revisiting and building upon previous learning to reinforce knowledge retrieval.
- Topics are not isolated or solely focused on learning new nouns. As children advance, the curriculum introduces more complex concepts and ideas, building on the vocabulary and skills acquired in earlier years.

Enrichment

- Playing games
- Outdoor challenges
- Using ICT to create plays/games
- Food tasting
- Parachute games

Cross-Curricular Links

- History – Year 5 Maya
- Years 3-6 – Computing link using QR codes/Kahoot/audio recorder/ Chatterpix/Puppet Pals/Blooket
- Geography – Learning about Mexico and Spain (physical and human features) linked with the study of Mexico Year 5
- PSHE – Learning about customs and traditions in Mexico/Spain etc.
- Music – Singing songs in each year group
- English – S&L is used in every lesson. Sentence construction using adverbs, adjectives, nouns and verbs is also a focus
- RE links to Christmas and Easter around the world

Assessment

- Whole class and verbal feedback
- Use of Knowledge Organisers
- Use of retrieval practice at the beginning & end of lessons
- Use of quizzes, starter, plenary activities and assessment tasks
- Teacher assessment, self-assessment and peer assessment of activities and tasks
- Use of termly vocabulary quizzes
- Use of termly tracking grids
- Referral to the progression document
- Completion of the FL Foundation Subject Assessment document identifying children not achieving expected standard and those exceeding

Inclusion / Challenge & Inspire

- The Foreign Languages (FL) Curriculum is accessible to all students.
- Knowledge organisers are provided to support and extend learning.
- Key vocabulary is consistently shared and discussed throughout lessons.
- Both adults and children model key language skills.
- Retrieval practice is used to deepen knowledge and reinforce learning.
- Key questions promote critical thinking and self-assessment.
- Strong teacher subject knowledge ensures effective support and extension through teaching approaches, strategies, task design, adaptations and differentiation.
- To support, challenge, and inspire students, we offer: self-selected and tiered activities, varied resources and scaffolds, differentiation through outcomes, as well as adult and peer support.
- Help sheets are placed in every child's book to provide quick access to vocabulary when needed.
- Students are encouraged to challenge and extend themselves by using dictionaries or exploring more advanced vocabulary.
- Children fluent in a language have opportunities to continue learning through peer support, differentiated tasks or even learning a new language, such as German, when applicable.