Northbrook Primary

Academy



**Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Policy**

Date of policy: September 2021

Review Date: September 2022

At Northbrook Primary Academy, our children’s happiness, well-being and achievements are at the heart of everything we do. We provide a nurturing environment for each child, where they feel safe and supported to achieve their full potential.

Our logo represents the nurture and opportunities for growth we provide for all of the children in our care. The compass and brook not only refer to our name, they also represent the educational journey each child will embark on from the moment they join us here at Northbrook.

At Northbrook we recognise that every child is unique and all our staff strive to ensure that every child is given the opportunity to work to the best of their ability. We endeavour to develop the whole child and prepare each one academically, emotionally and socially to live and succeed in an ever-changing world. We provide our children with a wide range of experiences to ensure every child can develop a love of learning, enjoy being in school and have a chance to shine. We aspire to ensure that our children leave us with the best possible foundations upon which they can build throughout their lives. We are incredibly proud of our children and want our children to feel proud of themselves.

We take pride in the family atmosphere that we have developed and value the partnerships we have with parents, carers and the local community. It is important to us all at Northbrook that parents feel part of our school as well and always feel welcome.

**Our values are at the HEART of our school**

**Happiness**

**Empathy**

**Aspiration**

**Respect**

**Teamwork**

At Northbrook Primary Academy, we believe that MFL should foster pupils’ curiosity and deepen their understanding of other languages around the world. The teaching should enable pupils to express their ideas and thoughts in another language and 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 gain a new perspective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own culture and those of others.

# The aims of teaching MFL in our school are to ensure that all pupils:

* Understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of sources.
* Speak with increasing 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.
* Write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt.
* Develop positive attitudes to speakers of modern foreign languages and an unprejudiced approach and understanding of other cultures.
* To give insight into the culture and civilisation of the countries where the language is spoken.

# Implementation:

To ensure high standards of teaching and learning in MFL, we implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout year groups. Spanish is the main language taught at Northbrook Primary Academy. Pupils begin learning Spanish in Year 3, with weekly lessons taught by a specialist Spanish teacher.

The MFL curriculum at Northbrook Primary Academy is based upon the 2014 Primary National Curriculum in England, which provides a broad framework and outlines the knowledge and skills taught. The teacher plans lessons for each class, which builds upon children’s prior knowledge and understanding and is therefore pitched at the correct level.

The teaching provides an appropriate balance of spoken and written language. It enables pupils to understand and communicate ideas, facts and feelings in speech and writing, focused on familiar and routine matters, using their knowledge of phonology, grammatical structures and vocabulary. When teaching MFL, the teacher follows the children’s interests as well as using a variety of multi-sensory teaching approaches to ensure their learning is fun.

# All pupils are taught to:

* Listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding.
* Explore the patterns and language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words.
* Engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help.
* Speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures.
* Develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases.
* Present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences.
* Read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing.
* Appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language.
* Broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary.
* Write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly.
* Describe people, places, things and actions orally\* and in writing

# Assessment and monitoring

**We measure the impact of MFL through the following methods:**

* Observing children speaking and listening in another language
* Marking of written work in books.
* Images and videos of children completing speaking and listening activities.
* Pupil interviews.
* Learning walkthroughs.
* Annual reporting of standards across the curriculum to parents.

# To monitor and evaluate MFL the co-ordinator:

* Supports teacher(s) via discussions, lesson observations, work scrutinies and learning walkthroughs.
* Monitors teachers' medium term planning ensuring key skills are being covered thoroughly and with purpose.
* Has responsibility for securing high standards of teaching and learning in MFL.
* Ensures that practices improve the quality of MFL education throughout the school.
* Discusses regularly with the Senior Leadership Team, the progress with implementing this policy in the school.
* Supports teachers via discussions, leading staff meetings, lesson observations, preparation of INSET, reviews, and purchases resources.