



Newquay Junior Academy

Languages POLICY

September 2024

This policy was reviewed: September 2024

The policy will be next be reviewed: September 2025

Intent

We believe that our broad and balanced curriculum will instil a love of languages in our children that will make them curious about other countries and cultures around the world.

Our aim is that our children will listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding.

Our high quality Spanish lessons will allow our children to explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words. This will ensure that new knowledge will be transferred to the long term memory, ready for retrieval and transfer as per the Cognitive Load Theory.

Our curriculum is designed so that children can appreciate songs, poems and rhymes in Spanish, which will broaden their understanding of vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced.

As language detectives, our children will investigate key features and patterns of the language; and explore how these differ from or are similar to English.

Implementation

To ensure high quality language learning is taking place, we implement a curriculum which is progressive throughout Year 3 to Year 6. We know that learning happens through schema extension and connection, so the themes in the curriculum are re-visited with new information added.

We understand that the working memory of the brain is very limited so little and often is the best way to learn languages. Our Spanish lessons take place for approximately thirty minutes every week. Throughout the week, their class teacher will practise with them when they can.

Spanish lessons are planned through half termly topics which will allow progression.

Spanish lessons are taught with a strong focus on vocabulary using games, songs and repetition to secure learning.

Impact

Children will have learnt the skills to learn languages and they will have a love of language learning. They will use their knowledge of English to investigate and explore the meanings of new Spanish words.

Children will be able to remember words and phrases in Spanish and demonstrate their learning by singing songs or holding short conversations with peers or teachers.

Children will feel inspired to continue their language learning at Secondary school and beyond.

As Spanish is a phonetic language, the writing of Spanish words will support children's spelling and writing in English.

Children will have a better understanding of Spanish speaking countries and cultures around the world and be inspired to travel.