

# Language Strategy at Greasby Infant School



At Greasby Infant School we teach three different languages, Mandarin, French and Spanish. All children aged 3-7 years learn Mandarin in weekly lessons as well as in daily practice activities. Key Stage 1 children also learn Spanish, whilst Foundation Stage children learn French, both in weekly sessions.

Our Modern Foreign Language learning is an essential part of our Communication, language and literacy curriculum and is an integral part of our whole school creative approach to teaching and learning. Our language learning is based around a variety of cross-curricular themes, where whole school opportunities are used to share and celebrate success at all levels.

We employ a part time specialist language teacher to deliver the French and Spanish curriculum, whilst as a Confucius Classroom, our fulltime Hanban teacher supports the delivery of Mandarin and Chinese culture.

We work closely with a variety of schools to support the development of their language strategy and regularly host events and language festivals to share and promote a love of language learning. We are involved in the delivery of ITT through the School Direct programme and support associate teachers with the development of language teaching methods.

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# **National curriculum in England: languages programmes of study (adapted for Foundation Stage and KS1 pupils)**

## **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. It should also provide opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes. Language teaching should provide the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries.

## **Aims**

The national curriculum for languages aims to ensure that all pupils:

- understand and respond to spoken language from a variety of authentic 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

## **Subject content (adapted from KS2 documentation)**

### **Foreign language**

Teaching may be of any modern or ancient foreign language and should focus on enabling pupils to make substantial progress in one language. The teaching should provide an appropriate understanding of spoken language and should lay the foundations for further foreign language teaching at key stage 2 and beyond. It should enable pupils to understand and communicate ideas, facts and feelings in speech, focused on familiar and routine matters, using their knowledge of phonology and vocabulary.

The focus of study in modern languages will be on practical communication.

Pupils should be taught to:

- listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding
- explore the patterns and sounds of 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.
- speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures
- develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are using familiar words and phrases
- present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences
- 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 material.
- describe people, places, things and actions orally.
- understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied, including key features and patterns of the language; how to apply these and how these differ from or are similar to English