

Greengairs Primary School



Modern Languages Policy

Happy

Safe

Included

Achieving

1. Introduction

At Greengairs Primary, we believe that learning a modern language is an essential part of a broad and balanced curriculum. In accordance with Curriculum for Excellence and Scotland's 1+2 Languages Approach, we are committed to ensuring that all pupils develop skills in an additional language from Primary 1 onwards, with a second additional language introduced by Primary 5.

This policy sets out our approach to modern language learning, ensuring progression, continuity, and enjoyment while fostering skills that will benefit pupils in their future learning and beyond.

2. Rationale and Aims

Rationale:

Learning a modern language allows children to develop communication skills, deepen their understanding of language structures, and gain insight into different cultures. It enhances literacy, cognitive development, and problem-solving skills while preparing learners for life in an increasingly globalised world.

Aims:

To provide all pupils with the opportunity to learn a modern language from P1, with a second additional language introduced by P5.

To develop pupils' confidence in listening, talking, reading, and writing in another language.

To foster an appreciation of different cultures and global citizenship.

To ensure progression and continuity in language learning across all stages.

To make language learning engaging, relevant, and embedded in everyday classroom experiences.

3. Learning and Teaching Approaches

Modern language learning will be embedded in daily classroom practice, making use of a variety of approaches, including:

Interactive and play-based learning, particularly in the early years.

Songs, rhymes, games, and storytelling to reinforce language patterns.

Digital resources, including apps and videos, to support pronunciation and vocabulary development.

Cross-curricular links to provide real-life contexts for language learning.

Opportunities for pupils to develop speaking and listening skills through dialogue, role-play, and collaborative tasks.

Differentiated approaches to ensure accessibility for all learners.

4. Modern Language Programme

Our modern language programme follows the Curriculum for Excellence Experiences and Outcomes, ensuring a progressive development of skills in:

Listening and Talking – Understanding and responding to spoken language in different contexts.

Reading – Recognising and understanding familiar words and phrases in written texts.

Writing – Developing the ability to write simple words, phrases, and sentences.

Intercultural Understanding – Exploring cultural traditions, celebrations, and customs of countries where the language is spoken.

At Greengairs Primary, we currently teach French from P1 and introduce Spanish from P5, ensuring a balance between spoken and written language.

5. Assessment, Recording, and Reporting

Assessment in modern languages is ongoing and formative, focusing on pupils' ability to communicate effectively.

This includes:

- **Teacher observations of listening and talking activities.**
- **Pupil self-assessment and peer assessment through collaborative tasks.**
- **Informal quizzes and practical activities to gauge understanding.**
- **Digital tools and recording methods to track progress.**

- Progress in language learning is shared with parents through reports and learning journals, and achievements are celebrated through class displays, performances, and presentations.

6. Transition to Secondary School

To ensure continuity in language learning, we work closely with our associated secondary school(s).

This includes:

- Sharing information on pupils' progress and experiences in modern languages.
- Opportunities for P7 pupils to engage with language teachers from secondary schools.
- Transition activities that provide familiarity with language learning at secondary level.

7. Monitoring and Review

The implementation of this policy will be monitored by the senior leadership team and reviewed regularly to ensure it aligns with national guidelines and best practice. Staff will be supported with ongoing professional learning opportunities in language teaching.