

## **Wicklewood Primary School and Nursery**

### **Modern Foreign Languages Policy**

#### **Rationale**

At Wicklewood School, we follow the National Curriculum 2014 and we believe that all children should have the opportunity to be exposed to other languages and cultures, particularly in our region which is still largely white British ethnicity. We believe that the younger they start learning another language, the easier they find it, and the more the specific language learning skills will become embedded, and that these skills are transferable across the curriculum and for learning further languages.

#### **Purpose of Primary Languages**

Children should be given opportunities to practise skills in:

- Oracy
- Literacy
- Knowledge about Language
- Intercultural Understanding
- Language Learning Strategies.

These strands are applicable to any modern foreign language, and it is not necessary for there to be continuity of only one language throughout the school.

#### **Broad Guidelines**

1. Children start languages in Y2 with a strong emphasis on Oracy and Language Learning Strategies. In line with the principles of communicative language teaching, the language will be mainly taught through the spoken word, but vocabulary is extended, and where possible, linked to work being carried out in other subject areas. The children will have the opportunity to learn stories, songs and rhymes; to listen to and show understanding of sounds, words, and longer sentences; and to recall, retain and use vocabulary. The main language taught at this stage is likely to be Spanish. Children are encouraged to use a range of language learning skills to help them access the material. This gives the children a firm grounding ready to move to KS2 where learning will become more formal.
2. At KS2, the full range of skills as outlined above, and in the National Curriculum will be taught. By the end of Year 6, the children will be able to: use spoken language with a degree of confidence and initiate and sustain conversations; read and understand the main points of a short written passage; write phrases from memory; use knowledge about language to build sentences and short texts; use language learned in one context, in another context; and understand the basic grammar of the language they are learning.
3. The languages taught at KS2 are likely to be Spanish, German and French depending on the year group.

#### **Conclusion**

Primary Languages provide children opportunities to develop language learning skills in a fun and non-threatening context as well as promoting intercultural understanding and a sense of national identity within a global society. Learning languages provides opportunities for reinforcing British Values such as Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs and Mutual Respect. This policy directly links/relates to the Teaching and Learning Policy, SEN Information Report and English Policy.