

SMSC in Spanish

Alwoodley Primary School

Spiritual Development

Studying Spanish language and culture provides the children with opportunities to examine their own faiths, beliefs and values and to compare them to those of other children both at school and in other parts of the world.

The two major world religions of Christianity and Islam are closely linked throughout Spanish history and children examine the similarities and differences through looking at art, music, dance and the etymology of the Spanish language.

This helps them to see themselves as part of a global community and empowers them to reach out with greater tolerance and understanding of each other.

Moral Development

Through studying Spanish and Latin-American culture, children learn about different traditions and practises. They are encouraged to question their own values and beliefs as well as those of others in different parts of the world. For example, through studying the history of bullfighting, the festival of The Day of the Dead and- through our topic on the history of chocolate- the expansion of the Spanish Empire into central and South America, children are encouraged to look at issues objectively and from a different perspective to their own. They learn how history and traditions have shaped the way people think and how to form opinions without judging or dismissing something as wrong because it is different.

Social Development

Learning Spanish supports general literacy and oracy and leads to gains across the curriculum. It supports and celebrates the international dimension and gives children enjoyment and a sense of achievement in their learning. Children are given opportunity to express themselves creatively and imaginatively in Spanish and to explore strategies to improve their learning. Through role-play, pair work, singing, reciting poems, story-telling and games, children reinforce and embed the language and become confident speakers.

Cultural Development

Children are given opportunities to apply and develop their knowledge of language and language learning to explore their own cultural identities and those of others. Children compare and contrast celebrations of birthdays, Easter, Christmas and New Year at home, in Spain and in Latin America. They also study Spanish festivals such as the Tomatina, the running of the bulls and the Gran FERIA. Through learning about the geography of the hispanic world children gain better knowledge and understanding of their position in Europe and the world. They learn about the connections between our cultures and about the historical links between our countries in terms of language and culture. This in turn helps them to appreciate the diversity of language and culture in their own school. Through comparing and contrasting daily routines, food and education systems at home and in Spain, children gain a better understanding of their own roots, cultures and traditions.

Studying Spanish grammar directly benefits the children's understanding of English grammar. Children study the origin of cognates such as potato, tomato, avocado, etc as well as how the English language acquired these words.