

Ted Wragg Trust Curriculum Map: SPANISH



Subject sentence – What do we do?

The Spanish curriculum empowers students with the tools for lifelong language learning through the teaching of phonics, vocabulary and grammar, and develops an appreciation of the culture of the countries where Spanish is spoken.

What skills and cultural capital do students gain in Spanish?

The curriculum exposes students to differing cultures and it challenges the misconception that British people don't need languages. Students learn how widely spoken Spanish is as both a first and second language. They explore the similarities and differences between life in the UK and life in Spain, for example through learning about the school system and how key festivals are celebrated in Spain and the Spanish speaking countries.

How is the Spanish curriculum designed?

In line with the recommendations from the 2016 pedagogy review, our MFL curriculum is built around the core principles of knowledge of **phonics**, **vocabulary** and **grammar**. In Years 7-9, we follow LDP (Language Driven Pedagogy) SOLs. From the end of Year 9 and throughout KS4, we apply language-driven pedagogy and principles to our Schemes of Learning which are in line with the latest AQA GCSE course.

What content do you cover and how is this delivered over time?

We teach grammar-led lessons, where grammar points are introduced in a logical sequence, based upon their complexity and frequency. We begin with the most common irregular verbs in Year 7 Term 1, then introduce gender, adjective agreements, regular verb patterns in the present tense and prepositions.

We select vocabulary from the most frequently used 2000 words in Spanish. The vocabulary is chosen for its usefulness in terms of frequency, but also how well it can illustrate the main grammar point of the lesson. Lessons are front-loaded with phonics, vocabulary and grammar instruction, and knowledge is deepened through meaningful practice in different modes and modalities. The Spanish phonics system is relatively shallow, therefore most SSCs are taught in Year 7 and then revisited in Year 8 onwards.

How do we support Literacy in the Spanish Curriculum?

Knowledge organiser and/or online platforms are used to pre-teach and to consolidate vocabulary knowledge. Teachers model how to use this vocabulary and check for understanding. Students practise it through choral repetition and then independent practice and recall. Students read longer texts containing higher level grammar and vocabulary. Teachers model written tasks, before giving students the opportunity to practise independently. Teachers provide structure strips and prompts to scaffold extended writing tasks.

How do you use spaced practice / retrieval practice?

Retrieval practice is a feature of every lesson through the use of Do Now activities to secure the retention of core knowledge. Grammar, phonics, and vocabulary knowledge are systematically revisited throughout the curriculum so that knowledge is thoroughly embedded, and students are able to use it in a range of contexts. Homework is a set of words to learn each week. The words are revisited in lessons and tested in the Do Now.

How do you sequence the curriculum so that new knowledge and skills builds on what has been taught before?

The curriculum is designed so that when a grammar feature is revisited, students' knowledge deepens. For example, students are introduced the preterite tense in Year 8 Cycle 1, again in Year 8 Cycle 2, and then knowledge is deepened with the preterite tense of irregular verbs in Year 8 Cycle 3, with further practise in a range of different contexts across Y9-11.

What is the future of the Spanish curriculum?

Our Spanish curriculum is evolving. From September 2023, we introduced a new Y9 LDP Scheme of Learning, and in April 2024 we introduced a new KS4 Scheme of Learning, which starts to prepare students for the new Spanish GCSE, with first teaching from September 2024 and first examination in summer 2026. Students will be well-prepared for the depth of knowledge of vocabulary, phonics and grammar that the new GCSE requires, and will have the skills which form the base of language learning for life.



Future careers in Spanish
Aviation; international aid and development; teaching; politics; diplomatic service; law; tourism; sales and marketing; translation and interpretation; journalism.

Key knowledge



Phonics



Vocabulary



Grammar



Listening



Speaking



Reading



Writing

Key Skills