



www.nonsuchschool.org

Year 7

Department of Spanish



OVERVIEW

The aim of the year 7 Spanish scheme of work is to introduce your daughter to the Spanish-speaking world and to provide her with an introduction to the language and how it works. The course has a communicative focus, with activities designed to ensure that pupils develop a love of the language, but also develops their grammatical understanding and also an understanding of key phonics and pronunciation, thereby beginning to equip them with the skills required in the new GCSE. KS3 forms the groundwork for GCSE, and during the course of KS3, she will develop the ability to express her ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and in writing. We aim to ensure that you daughter will be able to:

- understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources.
- speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what she wants to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of her pronunciation and intonation.
- write at varying length, for different purposes and audiences, using the variety of grammatical structures that she has learnt.
- discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in Spanish.

Skills Developed

- Working independently
- Working in pairs and groups
- Speaking Spanish and general communication skills
- Asking for and giving information
- Listening
- Reading skills, including reading for gist and detail
- Writing skills, including translation
- Understanding culture and life in the Hispanic world

Topics covered

- Pronunciation and phonics, learning the key sounds of the Spanish alphabet with a focus on a/e/i/o/u / l vs ll / the different pronunciation of “c” and “z”
- The key verbs *ser* and *estar*, including how and when to use them
- Use of “*hay*”
- Irregular verbs such as *tener*, *ir*, *dar* and *hacer*
- The concept of gender agreement of adjectives and key adjectives to use when speaking and writing
- Nouns in the singular and plural
- Use of the definite and indefinite article
- Describing somebody’s personality and mood
- How to ask a question, with a focus on correct intonation

- The use of regular *ar*, *er* and *ir* verbs and key infinitives
- How to create negative sentences
- How to describe your family
- How to describe a town
- Numbers, months, days of the week
- Personal Introductions and descriptions
- How to say your age

How we assess your daughter's progress

- There will be regular vocabulary and grammar tests, as well as end-of-unit assessments
- Homework will be given after every lesson (20 minutes) and may be learning for a vocabulary test, or revising for an end-of-unit test, or may be a reading exercise or a short piece of writing.
- All creative writing assessments will be marked and your daughter will be given clear guidance on what she has done well and what she needs to do in order to improve.
- Progress of the class will be assessed during lessons and your daughter's teacher will adapt the lesson content according to the needs of the class.

How we support and develop your daughter

- Our staff are committed to ensuring that pupils enjoy their Spanish lessons and make outstanding progress in their learning
- Every pupil will be issued with a Language Guide
- Every pupil is introduced to an encouraged to use online vocab learning applications such as Memrise, Quizlet.
- All pupils will be given access to the Language Gym, an on-line Language Learning programme, for both guided study and independent work
- We will also provide opportunities for your daughter to be involved in extra-curricular activities through the Sixth Form-led Languages Committee

How you can help your daughter

- Help your daughter to learn new vocabulary. Everyone has different methods to learn vocabulary so help your daughter to discover which is the best one for her. Some use flashcards, some rewrite the words several times, some use the "learn, cover and write technique", some prefer to stick the words around the house, some use apps, such as Memrise, Quizlet or Duolingo. There is no "one size fits all method" – the best way is to encourage your daughter to experiment to see which suits her, and to encourage her to learn vocabulary over a longer time period. The real key to learning vocabulary is little and often.
- Encourage her to use Language Gym in her own time
- Help her to understand how to use a dictionary
- Listen to her reading aloud in order to improve her pronunciation, accent and fluency
- Review the feedback with your daughter following class tests, focussing on areas to improve

- Review your daughter's homework book, ensuring that she has completed corrections or has caught up with missing work
- There are a wealth of resources available online; a search for any topic will quickly return many suitable resources

- Some suggested websites:
- <https://www.language-gym.com/>
- www.languagesonline.org.uk
- www.languageskills.co.uk
- www.bbc.co.uk/languages/spanish
- www.duolingo.com
- www.memrise.com
- CGP also produce workbooks and revision guides
- Finally, if you feel that your daughter is experiencing any difficulties, please stress to her that all of the Spanish department teaching staff are ready and willing to assist, so always ask if unsure!

07/24