

MFL age related expectations (skills progression)

EYFS (RECEPTION / YEAR 0)

Listening

- Understand a few familiar spoken words and simple phrases (e.g. simple greetings, feelings, numbers 1-10, colours)
- Listen attentively to songs, rhymes and stories in Spanish
- Respond to familiar verbal prompts with actions or physical responses

Speaking

- Imitate pronunciation of words and simple phrases (e.g. *Hola, Me llamo, ¿Cómo estás?*, counting 1-10)
- Join in with songs and rhymes in Spanish using actions and gestures
- Produce simple one-word responses or greetings with teacher support
- Express feelings using simple Spanish words

Intercultural Understanding

- Understand that Spanish is spoken in many countries around the world
 - Develop curiosity about Spanish-speaking cultures through songs, stories and celebrations
 - Experience Spanish as part of daily classroom routines and celebrations
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YEAR 1

Listening

- Understand and recall familiar spoken words and simple phrases (e.g. name, age, greetings, feelings, counting 1-20)
- Listen to songs, rhymes and stories in Spanish and respond with actions or gestures
- Follow simple classroom instructions in Spanish
- Recognise key vocabulary in context through multi-modal activities (songs, games, visuals)

Speaking

- Recognise and respond to familiar words and simple phrases (e.g. *Me llamo, Tengo ____ años*, counting 1-20)
- Join in with songs and rhymes in Spanish using correct actions and pronunciation
- Answer simple questions using one or two-word responses or modelled phrases
- Share their name, age and feelings in simple, supported contexts

Reading

- Begin to recognise some familiar words in written form, supported by visuals
- Identify key vocabulary words when presented with picture-word matching activities
- Show awareness that Spanish uses letters and symbols

Writing

- Trace or copy single familiar words in Spanish (e.g. *Hola, adiós, rojo*)
- Recognise the shape and form of Spanish words

Grammar

- Notice that nouns in Spanish can be masculine or feminine in gender (e.g. *el gato, la gata*)
- Begin to hear differences in word order compared to English

Intercultural Understanding

- Understand that many countries speak Spanish around the world
 - Locate Spain on a map and identify the Spanish flag
 - Learn about simple traditions and celebrations in Spanish-speaking cultures (e.g. Christmas / *Navidad*)
 - Understand that Spanish speakers have different daily routines and customs
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YEAR 2

Listening

- Understand and respond with increasing accuracy to familiar spoken words and simple phrases (e.g. recognise questions about name, age, feelings, colours, instructions)
- Appreciate and listen to songs, rhymes and stories in Spanish, making links between phonemes and rhyme
- Identify specific information when listening to short, supported texts in Spanish
- Begin to understand context clues to aid comprehension

Speaking

- Communicate with and respond to others using words and simple phrases (e.g. greetings, introducing themselves, expressing feelings, describing colours, counting 1-30)
- Confidently join in with songs and rhymes in Spanish using correct actions and pronunciation
- Ask and answer simple questions in turn with a partner or teacher (e.g. *¿Cómo te llamas?* / *¿Cómo estás?* / *¿De qué color es?*)
- Produce short, supported sentences using familiar vocabulary and modelled structures
- Develop increasingly accurate pronunciation and intonation

Reading

- Begin to accurately identify some familiar words in written form and read them aloud
- Read and understand simple, high-frequency words and short phrases in context
- Use picture clues and visual support to aid comprehension
- Show awareness of sound-spelling links when reading familiar words

Writing

- Independently write familiar words in Spanish using a model or word bank
- Copy and adapt simple phrases, including their own personal information (e.g. name, age, colour preference)
- Write simple one-word or two-word labels for pictures or objects
- Begin to use finger spaces and simple punctuation

Grammar

- Notice that nouns in Spanish can be masculine or feminine in gender
- Begin to recognise that articles (*el, la, un, una*) agree with the gender of nouns
- Begin to form simple negatives (e.g. *No me gusta*)

Intercultural Understanding

- Learn about school life in Spain—similarities and differences (e.g. school hours, lunch traditions, celebrations)
 - Understand that Spanish-speaking countries have different cultures and traditions
 - Explore simple facts about Spain (geography, landmarks, celebrations)
 - Recognise that communication with Spanish-speaking children can build friendships and cultural awareness
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YEAR 3

Listening

- Understand and respond accurately to familiar spoken words and phrases (e.g. questions about self, classroom instructions, recognise numbers 1-50, identify colours and objects)
- Appreciate and listen to songs, rhymes and stories in Spanish, making links between phonemes, rhyme and meaning
- Listen to short texts or dialogues in Spanish and answer simple questions in English
- Develop ability to filter out key information from longer pieces of spoken Spanish

Speaking

- Communicate with and respond accurately to others using simple phrases and short sentences (e.g. introducing themselves, saying their birthday, where they live, expressing simple likes and dislikes)
- Explore patterns and sounds of language to develop accurate pronunciation and intonation
- Confidently join in with songs, rhymes and games in Spanish and take risks when pronouncing new vocabulary
- Begin to use conjunctions to link simple ideas (e.g. *y*, *pero*)
- Ask and answer questions with increasing accuracy and independence
- Present a short piece of information about themselves or a familiar topic to the class

Reading

- Accurately identify some familiar phrases in written form and show awareness of sound-spelling links
- Read and understand familiar nouns, simple adjectives and short phrases with reasonable accuracy
- Use context clues and visuals to support understanding of unfamiliar words
- Begin to read and understand simple sentences in context
- Show growing confidence in applying phonic knowledge to support reading of new words

Writing

- Independently write familiar words in Spanish from memory
- Write simple sentences or fill in gapped texts using a word bank or writing frame
- Begin to write short descriptions using adjectives (e.g. *gato rojo*, *perro grande*)
- Apply phonic knowledge to support writing of new words
- Copy and adapt simple structures with personal information

Grammar

- Notice that the definite/indefinite article changes depending on the gender of the noun (*el, la, un, una*)
- Understand that adjectives change according to the gender and number of the noun
- Begin to understand how to form the negative (e.g. *No me gusta, No tengo*)
- Recognise simple verb patterns in the present tense (e.g. *tengo, eres*)
- Understand basic noun-adjective agreement (gender and number)
- Become aware of accent marks and their effect on pronunciation

Intercultural Understanding

- Learn about celebrations in Spain (e.g. Christmas, Día de Reyes) and understand that aspects of daily culture in another country are different from their own
 - Explore aspects of school life, food and family life in Spanish-speaking countries
 - Develop understanding that Spanish is spoken across the globe with varied customs and traditions
 - Begin to appreciate connections between language and culture (e.g. traditions, celebrations, daily routines)
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YEAR 4

Listening

- Listen for and identify specific phonemes, words and phrases in Spanish on a wider range of topics (e.g. wider range of classroom instructions, numbers 1-100, multiples of 10 in prices/dates/numeracy activities)
- Listen to a short text using familiar words and phrases in Spanish and answer simple questions in English or Spanish
- Continue to appreciate and listen to songs, rhymes and stories in Spanish, making links between phonemes and rhyme
- Develop ability to understand the gist of a longer passage in Spanish and extract specific information
- Listen to authentic Spanish audio and respond with understanding

Speaking

- Communicate by asking and answering questions on a wider range of topics and using familiar adjectives to describe themselves and others (e.g. describing themselves, friends and animals)
- Begin to express preferences on likes and dislikes using familiar topics (e.g. food, colours, animals, activities)
- Present a short piece of spoken Spanish on a familiar topic and link ideas using simple conjunctions
- Explore patterns and sounds of language to develop increasingly accurate pronunciation and intonation
- Confidently join in with songs, rhymes and games in Spanish and apply phonic knowledge when pronouncing new vocabulary
- Ask spontaneous questions and respond to unexpected topics with confidence
- Begin to use opinion phrases (e.g. *Me gusta, Me encanta, No me gusta*)

Reading

- Read and understand with increasing accuracy a short-written text and respond to simple questions in Spanish or more complex questions in English
- Follow a short text by listening and reading at the same time
- Read familiar words and phrases with good pronunciation and apply phonic knowledge to support reading of new words
- Understand that accents in Spanish affect the correct pronunciation of words
- Begin to read and understand short sentences on familiar topics
- Use a bilingual dictionary or word bank to support understanding of new vocabulary

Writing

- Independently write familiar phrases from memory or write a short text in Spanish using a writing frame
- Begin to extend sentences using simple conjunctions and include adjectival agreement
- Apply phonic knowledge to support writing of new words
- Write short descriptions of people, animals or objects using adjectives
- Copy and adapt familiar structures with their own ideas and information
- Begin to use capital letters and full stops consistently

Grammar

- Accurate placement of adjectives and understanding that the ending may change according to number and gender
- Understand awareness of differences in word order of adjectives (adjectives often follow nouns in Spanish)
- Form the negative expressing likes and dislikes with increasing accuracy (e.g. *No me gusta el chocolate*)
- Understand the difference between masculine and feminine nouns and adjectives
- Apply correct article agreement (*el, la, un, una, los, las, unos, unas*)

Intercultural Understanding

- Learn about food and celebrations in Spain and other Spanish-speaking countries, understanding that daily culture differs from their own
 - Explore school life, family structures and leisure activities in Spanish-speaking communities
 - Develop awareness of diversity within Spanish-speaking cultures
 - Understand the importance of the Spanish-speaking world and the global significance of the Spanish language
 - Begin to appreciate similarities and differences between their culture and Spanish-speaking cultures
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YEAR 5-6

Listening

- Listen to and understand a range of spoken Spanish on increasingly varied topics including opinions, descriptions, narratives and instructions
- Identify specific information from extended passages of spoken Spanish
- Develop ability to infer meaning from context when encountering unfamiliar words in listening activities
- Appreciate authentic Spanish media including songs, podcasts and short films
- Listen carefully to complex instructions and multi-step information in Spanish
- Understand different accents and regional variations in Spanish speech

Speaking

- Engage in conversation, asking and answering questions on a range of topics with increasing spontaneity
- Express opinions and preferences using a range of vocabulary and structures (e.g. *Me encanta, Me gusta mucho, Odio*)
- Speak in sentences using familiar vocabulary, phrases and increasingly complex language structures
- Develop accurate pronunciation and intonation, using familiar words and phrases with confidence
- Present ideas and information orally to audiences, including narrative accounts and descriptions
- Begin to use past tense structures to describe events and experiences (e.g. *Fui, Vi, Comí*)
- Ask for clarification and help using appropriate phrases (e.g. *¿Cómo se dice...?, ¿Qué significa?*)
- Use conjunctions to link ideas and create more complex sentences

Reading

- Read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing in Spanish
- Understand a short story or narrative in Spanish with support and answer comprehension questions
- Read and understand a variety of text types including descriptions, instructions, dialogues and narratives
- Use context and prior knowledge to deduce meaning of unfamiliar words
- Appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in Spanish, responding to them with understanding and engagement
- Begin to read authentic materials written for Spanish learners

Writing

- Write phrases from memory and adapt these to create new sentences, expressing ideas clearly
- Describe people, places, things and actions both orally and in writing using a range of vocabulary and structures
- Write short narratives or descriptions in Spanish using a variety of tenses (present and simple past)
- Use conjunctions to extend sentences and create more complex written structures
- Apply understanding of grammar to produce accurate written Spanish
- Write for different purposes including descriptions, opinions, narratives and responses to prompts
- Organise ideas into short paragraphs with appropriate punctuation

Grammar

Understand and apply basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied, including:

- Gender and number agreement between nouns, articles and adjectives
- Use of personal pronouns (yo, tú, él, ella, etc.)
- Formation and use of negative sentences
- Simple past tense structures (preterite and imperfect) in familiar contexts
- Use of ser and estar
- Formation of simple questions using question words

Intercultural Understanding

- Understand aspects of culture in Spanish-speaking countries including celebrations, traditions, daily life and customs
 - Appreciate the diversity of Spanish-speaking communities across the world
 - Develop awareness of the relationship between language, culture and identity
 - Recognise similarities and differences between British culture and Spanish-speaking cultures
 - Understand the importance of respectful communication across cultures
 - Explore the global significance of Spanish as an international language
 - Develop appreciation for Spanish literature, music, art and media
 - Build connections with Spanish-speaking communities through pen pal exchanges and virtual communication
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