ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Spanish Grammar Overview

Curriculum intent: Pupils build secure sound-spelling knowledge so that they can listen, speak, read and write Spanish with increasing accuracy, confidence and independence.

Progression at a glance

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Recognise core patterns	Broaden and compare forms	Conjugate and combine	Select and apply independently

Year 3

Grammar strand	Knowledge	Examples and application
Feminine and masculine forms Nouns	Every Spanish noun is masculine or feminine. Gender affects the indefinite article: un or una. Feminine nouns often, but not always, end in -a; masculine nouns often, but not always, end in -o. A noun ending can change in the plural. Most nouns become plural by adding -s.	un gato / una casa gato → gatos casa → casas
Feminine and masculine forms Adjectives	Most adjectives are positioned after the noun in Spanish.	un gato negro (a black cat)
Verbs including conjugation and negation	Know some common verbs in the present tense. Placing no before the verb makes it negative.	tengo / no tengo me gusta / no me gusta
Key features and language patterns	Spanish uses an inverted question or exclamation mark at the beginning as well as the usual mark at the end. Word order is sometimes different from English. Conjunctions such as y and pero can join clauses.	¿Cuántos años tienes? ¡Muy bien! y = and; pero = but

Year 4

Grammar strand	Knowledge	Examples and application
Feminine and masculine forms Nouns	Use el for masculine singular nouns and la for feminine singular nouns. Use los for masculine plural nouns and las for feminine plural nouns. Use a dictionary gender indicator to identify a noun's gender.	el libro / la mesa los libros / las mesas look for m. or f.
Feminine and masculine forms Adjectives	The ending of an adjective often changes according to the gender of the noun. A small number of adjectives can appear before the noun and may shorten or change form.	un gato negro / una gata negra un buen día hace mal tiempo el primer plato la tercera persona el gran momento
Verbs including conjugation and negation	Know common present-tense verbs. An infinitive means "to do something"; Spanish infinitives end in -ar, -er or -ir. Use me gusta + infinitive to say what you like doing. Está can mean "it is" when describing position or location.	hablar, comer, vivir Me gusta bailar. Está en la mesa.
Key features and language patterns	Use y to build most two-digit numbers above 30 that are not multiples of ten. Recognise that numbers such as dieciséis and veintiuno are contracted compounds. Begin to recognise prepositions. Use en for transport you get into and a where you do not.	treinta y uno dieciséis = diez + seis veintiuno = veinte + uno en tren / a pie

Year 5

Grammar strand	Knowledge	Examples and application
Feminine and masculine forms Nouns	Consolidate el, la, los and las. Plural groups of mixed grammatical gender traditionally take the masculine plural form. Select él (he), ella (she), or, where explicitly taught as inclusive contemporary usage, elle.	el niño / la niña los niños y las niñas él / ella / elle
Feminine and masculine forms Adjectives	Consolidate the small group of adjectives that can be positioned before a noun and may shorten or change form.	un buen día hace mal tiempo el primer plato la tercera persona el gran momento
Verbs including conjugation and negation	All Spanish infinitives end in -ar, -er or -ir. Verb endings change according to the subject. Form and use first-, second- and third-person forms of vivir, tener, llamarse and gustar.	vivo, vives, vive tengo, tienes, tiene me llamo, te llamas, se llama me gusta / te gusta / le gusta
Key features and language patterns	Spanish does not use a possessive apostrophe. Use de to express possession. Para followed by an infinitive means "in order to".	el padre de mi madre para aprender (in order to learn)

Year 6

Grammar strand	Knowledge	Examples and application
Feminine and masculine forms Nouns	No new standalone noun knowledge is specified. Consolidate and independently apply knowledge of gender, articles, number and pronouns.	select el, la, los or las accurately
Feminine and masculine forms Adjectives	The ending of an adjective often changes to agree with both the gender and number of the noun it describes.	un gato negro una gata negra unos gatos negros unas gatas negras
Verbs including conjugation and negation	Recognise first-, second- and third-person forms of common verbs. Use voy a + infinitive to construct the near future. For likes and dislikes about a singular noun, use me gusta + definite article + noun; for plural nouns, use me gustan + definite article + noun.	vivo / vives / vive Voy a jugar. Me gusta el pescado. Me gustan los tomates.
Key features and language patterns	A statement can become a question through interrogative intonation and question punctuation.	Tiene ojos azules. ¿Tiene ojos azules? ¿Es Ana?

National Curriculum alignment by the end of Key Stage 2

Through this progression, pupils are taught to:

- understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources;
- speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, including through discussion and questions, while improving pronunciation and intonation;
- write at varying length for different purposes and audiences, using the grammatical structures they have learnt; and
- discover and develop an appreciation of a range of writing in Spanish.