



## SAGE COLLEGE – POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

# SPANISH DEPARTMENT POLICY

### 1.1 Introduction

The Spanish Department at Sage College works faithfully following the Spanish curriculum of studies proposed by the Ministry of Education of Spanish Government and the Council of Education of the Junta de Andalucía in its two offered Spanish subjects, Spanish Language - Literature and Social Sciences. Despite being a British centre, Sage College is firmly committed to Spanish and the methodology we follow, especially fosters creativity, independence, a critical spirit, responsibility, public speaking, etc. These subjects are taken on a compulsory basis by all students of Spanish nationality until 4th of ESO (Year 11).

In recent years, our students have participated in different literary contests and have been named winners or finalists, something that makes us proud and makes us feel that we are on the right track. In addition, we work on interdisciplinary projects that involve different stages so that there is a correlation between the different courses and the students are aware of the educational community.

### 1.2 Aim

The aim is for students to acquire the skills, knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to understand the reality of the world in which they live, past and present collective experiences and the space in which life in society unfolds.

Belonging to a British centre, our students must speak English in all subjects except the subjects that follow the Spanish curriculum and that is why we work focusing on the complete acquisition of all the skills and abilities that they must acquire in each course.

### 1.3 Accreditation

According to the Andalusian Regional Ministry of Education, the main objective of the Spanish Language and Literature area is the development of language skills: listening, speaking and dialoguing, reading and writing and, more specifically, encouraging reading and comprehension of literary texts, which will contribute significantly to developing linguistic or communicative competence. In turn, it will develop the knowledge of the language favouring reflection on its use in any communicative context.

Learning a language is not only appropriating a system of signs, but also the cultural meanings that they transmit and, with these meanings, the ways in which people understand or interpret reality. In the same way, language is a powerful instrument to help coexistence, to express ideas, feelings and



emotions and, ultimately, to regulate one's behaviour. Language thus contributes to emotional and personal balance and to building a socially shared and communicable representation of the world that favours the social and cultural integration of people and the development and progress of society.

The key competence of linguistic communication or communicative competence is closely related to the abilities to understand and express themselves orally and in writing in a context of meaningful and real communicative interaction for students. Developing communicative competence allows you to decide not only how to use the language, but for what, where and with whom to use it. From this reflexive and functional point of view of language learning, it contributes to the development in students of a comprehensive, non-segmented knowledge, knowledge, skills and attitudes.

The key competence of linguistic communication or communicative competence is understood as the set of knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for the use of language, as an instrument for expression and communication, which enables the human experience of reality and thought, in general.

## 1.4 Spanish Culture Subject (*Cultura Española*)

Likewise, in our school we work in the same way the subject of Social Sciences that all Spanish students study compulsory until the 4th of ESO (Year 11). The Social Sciences area focuses its attention on the study of people as social beings and the general and particular characteristics of the environment in which they live. In this study the geographical, sociological, economic and historical aspects that determine a culture and a society are essential. Starting from the understanding of the reality of the Andalusian community as a meeting place for cultures, our students must know and value the natural and cultural heritage of Andalusia and actively contribute to its conservation and improvement; understand linguistic and cultural diversity as a value of peoples and individuals and develop an attitude of interest and respect towards it, as well as appreciate and respect its peculiarities and cultural riches.