



LANGUAGE POLICY

Rationale:

- Recognise that language is the foundation of learning
- Language is transdisciplinary across the curriculum and is the medium of inquiry and communication
- Language includes Speaking and Listening, Reading and Viewing and Writing, Presenting and Non Verbal Communication
- Language acquisition is the conduit for international mindedness and provides a means to be a global citizen
- Recognise that students from Kew Primary School come from diverse language backgrounds
- Language acquisition creates confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens
- Language acquisition helps students become ethical, thoughtful, informed and active members of society
- Language acquisition plays an important role in developing the understanding, attitudes and capabilities of those who will take responsibility for Australia's future
- Effective language teaching and learning are social acts, dependent on relationships with others, the environment, with the world and with self
- Learning experiences are planned to enable the learners to develop language through meaningful and enjoyable contexts

Definitions:

ACARA	Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority
DET	Department of Education and Training
EAL	English as an Additional Language
IB-PYP	International Baccalaureate – Primary Years Program
PLCs	Professional Learning Communities which are subculture of the school community that allows for teachers to work in collaborative teams, answering questions through the inquiry process
LOTE-	Language Other Than English
UOI	Unit of Inquiry
POI	Program of Inquiry
Vic Curric	Victorian Curriculum

Purpose:

To provide students with a rich, challenging and transdisciplinary inquiry-based Language Program that transcends all areas of the curriculum and provides students with the opportunity to:

- learn to listen to, read, view, speak, write, create and reflect on increasingly complex and sophisticated spoken, written and multimodal texts across a growing range of contexts with accuracy, fluency and purpose
- appreciate, enjoy and use the English language in all its variations and develop a sense of its richness and power to evoke feelings, convey information, form ideas, facilitate interaction with others, entertain, persuade and argue
- understand how Standard Australian English works in its spoken and written forms and in combination with non-linguistic forms of communication to create meaning
- develop interest and skills in inquiring into the aesthetic aspects of texts, and develop an informed appreciation of literature.

- ensure that mother tongue languages are valued and respected within the school community and that they assist in deepening understanding about cultural and personal identity

Implementation:

- The Language Program incorporates the Victorian Curriculum modes of Reading and Viewing, Writing and Speaking and Listening, Presenting and Non Verbal Communication on a daily basis from Prep to Year 6, including a weekly library session.
- Classroom practices in language learning at Kew Primary School follow the Kew Primary Learning and Teaching Model.
- Where possible, language is taught through relevant, authentic contexts of the transdisciplinary program of inquiry and is the basis of daily focused literacy blocks.
- The primary language of instruction and communication at Kew Primary School is English.
- The Language Program is based on the Victorian Curriculum and the PYP Language Scope and Sequence
- Language is taught through the High Impact Teaching Strategies and the six Transdisciplinary Units of Inquiry.
- Students from EAL backgrounds are supported in their learning of English through the EAL program.
- The PYP and Literacy Coordinators liaise with the Librarian to ensure the appropriate texts and resources are available within the Library collection, including fiction, non-fiction, mother-tongue, digital and hard copy resources.
- Students present their reflections of their progress through annual Three-way Conferences.
- The timetable provides for LOTE (French) instruction for every student from Prep to Year 6.
- The Language Program is overseen by the leadership team, who are responsible for the administration of the budget, organisation and resources
- The Kew Primary School Assessment Schedule guides student assessment. Student progress is tracked electronically and provides data for PLC inquiry
- Student progress is reported to parents through regular learning task reporting and twice yearly Student Reports through COMPASS

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year review cycle.

This policy was ratified by School Council - October 2019