

Languages Policy



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the school on 9802 0663 for support.

Rationale

At Weeden Heights Primary School, learning languages in addition to English extends students' literacy repertoires and their capacity to communicate. It strengthens students' understanding of the nature of language, culture, and the processes of communication. Students acquire communication skills in a language. Their reflections on the use and learning of language are applied in various learning contexts. Learning languages broadens students' horizons about the personal, social, cultural and employment opportunities that are available in an increasingly interconnected and interdependent world. The interdependence of countries and communities requires people to negotiate experiences and meanings across languages and cultures. A bilingual or plurilingual capability is the norm in most parts of the world and is part of the Victorian Curriculum.

1. Guidelines

The Languages curriculum aims to develop the knowledge, understanding and skills to ensure that students:

- Communicate in the language they are learning
- Understand the relationship between language, culture and learning
- Develop intercultural capabilities
- Understand themselves as communicators.

2. Implementation

The language being taught at the school is French and it is a Prep to Year 6 program. Weeden Heights Primary School will:

- Ensure that students from the Foundation year to Year 6 are taught a second language each week
- Track students' progress along a curriculum continuum inline with the Victorian Curriculum
- Ensure that the main emphasis of the teaching is on communication (socialising, informing, creating, translating, reflecting) and understandings (systems of language, language variation and change, role of language and culture)
- Ensure that basic language patterns and vocabulary will be taught through sequential language experience, activities, games, songs, roleplays and activities
- Develop intercultural capability, including understanding of and respect for diversity and difference, and an openness to different experiences and perspectives
- Develop understanding of how culture shapes and extends learners' understanding of themselves, their own heritage, values, beliefs, culture and identity

- Strengthen intellectual, analytical and reflective capabilities, and enhance creative and critical thinking.

Evaluation

The Education Sub-committee and Weeden Heights Primary School staff will review the effectiveness of the school's Language Policy on a cyclical basis in accordance with Department of Education guidelines.

Relevant Documents / Links

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/discipline/languages/Pages/default.aspx>

Resources

This policy is underpinned by the:

- Teaching and Learning Policy
- Curriculum Policy
- Student and Engagement Policy
- Inquiry Learning Policy

Policy Review and Approval

Policy last reviewed	2023
Consultation	Principal Staff Education Sub Committee and School Council Newsletter item to the school community
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	2027 <i>Mandatory review cycle for this policy is 3 - 4 years.</i>