

Languages Policy

Monmia Primary School



MONMIA PRIMARY SCHOOL

- Learn and Achieve -

This policy was last ratified by School Council in: September 2014

School Council President: Mary Papaioannou

Rationale

At Monmia Primary School we believe that the learning of a language through interest and enjoyment of students, acquires knowledge and skills that may be transferable to other areas of learning. Seeing the world through the eyes of another culture leads to a greater cultural and social awareness. It also promotes personal and cultural sensitivity.

Aim

The aim of this policy is to:

- Encourage in students an appreciation of learning another language as valuable and enjoyable.
- Ensure students acquire and develop communication and literacy skills in a language other than English (Japanese).
- Enhance students' general linguistic and literacy skills and promote divergent thinking.
- Assist in the development of learning strategies and problem solving skills.
- Develop a basic understanding of the Japanese language, so as to facilitate the learning of Japanese outside the classroom and post primary school.
- Develop awareness and appreciation of the Japanese culture ie. traditions, customs, influences etc. and in so doing encourage the students to draw valuable parallels with their own culture.
- Develop an appreciation and understanding of the multicultural nature of Australian society.
- Develop further self-awareness and a sense of personal and cultural identity.
- Develop in students a positive attitude and sensitivity towards the various cultures present in the community.
- Pursue a relationship with a sister school.

Implementation

- All children from Prep to Year 6 are to spend 60 minutes per week participating in the Japanese Language Program.
- The Languages teacher will collaborate with all staff involved regarding the implementation of the program.
- Teaching strategies will vary and cater for student's individual differences.
- Teachers are expected to involve themselves in the program and to promote the learning of Japanese in their classrooms and the wider community.
- The Languages teacher will be available as a resource and will coordinate the purchase of materials.
- Establish communication between Monmia and the sister school in Japan.
- The four macro skills for language learning – Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing will be covered at the appropriate level of students' ability.
- Various resources eg. videos, songs, Podcasts, games, etc. will be used to provide students with a wide range of learning experiences inclusive of interests and

capabilities.

- Learners are encouraged to use the language by communicating in speech and writing to :
 - increase understanding and use of socially and culturally appropriate language and the text types through which people communicate
 - develop strategies for expanding knowledge and skills in Japanese and to gradually manage their own language learning
 - interact with others in the appropriate social and cultural ways and to understand, establish and maintain social relationships
- Continue to host Japanese students/teachers to assist in increasing the knowledge of Japanese culture within the school and the wider community.
- Celebrate festivities in Japanese Week each year.
- Learning will be showcased and honoured at assemblies.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the School Council cyclic review or earlier if required.

Review

2018