Rationale

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.

Purpose

- To become familiar with and appreciate the culture.
- To increase students’ respect and sensitivity towards people of different cultural backgrounds.
- To develop an understanding of the cultural contexts in which the language is used.
- To develop students’ confidence in using basic oral language in everyday situations.
- To give students enjoyable and successful experiences in learning a second language.
- 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

Guidelines

The program will ensure that Languages is taught in contexts which are meaningful and relevant to the students.

1. Content will be chosen to coincide with the students’ interests and curriculum requirements. Wherever possible the program will develop themes which relate to key concepts in other subjects.

2. Content will be planned to build on the students’ experiences and acquired skills.

3. Language will be introduced through the use of materials and programs which promote learning through digital, visual and auditory cues.

4. A variety of teaching strategies will be used involving the active participation of students.
Purpose

Learning languages in addition to English extends student’s literacy repertoires and their capacity to communicate. It strengthens student’s understanding of the nature of language, culture, and the processes of communication.

Implementation

1. The Languages Program will reflect the guidelines in the Victorian Curriculum.
2. A wide variety of resources will be used to facilitate the program.
3. Incorporate social and cultural aspects of the program.
4. Use Languages in contexts that are meaningful to students in simulated or real life situations.
5. Students will be provided with the opportunity to use Digital Languages programs.

Evaluation

- The Languages Coordinator will evaluate the program each year.
- This Policy and Program will be reviewed by the Policy Committee as part of the school’s three year review cycle.