

ENGLISH

POLICY

Rationale:

- Active and effective participation in Australian society depends on the ability to speak, listen, read, view and write with confidence, purpose and enjoyment. The study of English, and the broader concept of literacy, is about the appropriate and effective use of language, the use of language as a means of learning and the development of knowledge about language.

Aims:

The English program aims to develop in students:

- the ability to speak, listen, read, and write effectively with confidence, purpose and enjoyment.
- a knowledge of the ways in which language varies according to context, purpose, audience and content, and the capacity to apply this knowledge.
- a knowledge of the linguistic patterns used to construct different texts, and the capacity to apply this knowledge, especially in writing.
- a broad knowledge of a range of printed and visual texts and a capacity to relate this to aspects of contemporary society and personal experience.
- the capacity to discuss and analyse texts and language critically.
- a knowledge of the ways textual interpretation and understanding may vary according to cultural, social and personal differences.

Implementation:

- All students at our school will study a sequential English course based upon the outcomes contained within the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS).
- Students in all P-4 classes will be involved in the Early Years Literacy program.
- Student's individual abilities will be monitored using formal measurements including elements of the Observation Survey.
- Learning opportunities will be provided that cater for the individual needs of each student.
- Reading Recovery will be available for all the relevant students in Grade One, whenever possible
- Student progress in all strands of English will be reported in half and end of year academic reports, as well as in the school's annual report.
- English study for each student will be not less than 10 hours per week, consisting of 5 x 2 hour uninterrupted literacy blocks.
- Home Reading will form a regular component of each student's homework.
- A staff member will be allocated the responsibility for coordinating English across the school as well as implementing an English program budget developed by staff and resourced by school council.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed every three years.

Ratified by School Council 20th May, 2009

