
Westgarth Primary School is a community of students, staff, friends and family working together to create a diverse, engaging and respectful learning environment.

Rationale

The ability to use a language other than English, to understand and/or move between cultures is important for social cohesiveness, the advancement of social harmony and responsible citizenship in a global community.

Aims

- Students achieve levels of communication competency in the target language appropriate to their age and experience.
- Students learn to communicate in the target language for many purposes and in many contexts; they are able to extend their social contacts, and have direct access to knowledge, ideas and information written or spoken in the target language.
- While learning an additional language, students gain knowledge of and make connections across a range of concepts drawn from other key learning areas such as literacy and numeracy.
- Students develop an understanding of the way language works (its structure, the role it plays, and its effects), which they can apply to other languages, including English.
- Students develop an understanding that cultural diversity exists and that customs and traditions vary within countries and over time. They understand that these are influences in Australian life and culture.

Implementation

- All students at our school will study sequential language course as outlined within The Victorian Essential Learning Standards, (VELS).
- Language study for each student will be at least 1 session per week.
- The language program will recognise individual needs and use a variety of teaching approaches to cater for both mother tongue speakers and second language learners.
- Student progress in language will be reported in half and end of year academic reports.
- A budget that provides for the needs of the language program will be developed and resourced appropriately.
- The language teacher will be allocated the responsibility of coordinating the school's language program, including a language multicultural day and language excursions/incursion.

Evaluation

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

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