

DATE: November 2012



LOTE POLICY

Rationale:

The Australian Curriculum acknowledges the importance of learning another language. Languages Other Than English (LOTE) contribute to the universal purposes of schooling and to the development of skills in thinking and reflection. They support the moral, social and economic initiation of young people into the culture and wider civilisation that surrounds them. Learning a language nurtures reflective, deep and creative thinking in specific ways, cultivates culturally distinctive fields of knowledge, and stimulates awareness of intellectual functioning. The ability to use a language other than English to move between cultures is imperative for full participation in the modern world, especially in the context of increasing globalisation and Australia's cultural diversity.

Purpose:

The Auslan L.O.T.E. program caters for the cultural and linguistic needs and interests of all students whether they are Deaf or hearing. The program provides opportunities for our students to learn another language and to help them communicate with students within and beyond our school.

Implementation:

- All students will study a sequential L.O.T.E. course based upon the learning focus statements contained within the Victorian Essential Learning Standards to enhance student's general knowledge.
- Incorporate school and area themes into L.O.T.E. via the Integrated Curriculum where possible.
- Develop in students a positive attitude towards learning Auslan.
- Incorporate lessons with an emphasis on signing and an element of Deaf Culture.
- Increase students understanding of the visual nature of Auslan, and how it differs to English in both structure and function.
- Develop student's ability to use basic, everyday signs to communicate.
- Gain insight into Deaf Culture, which gives Auslan its life and meaning.
- Develop in students an appreciation and tolerance of their own culture and the language and culture of others.

Evaluation: This policy will be reviewed and updated as necessary but no later than three years from the time it is ratified by School Council.

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