

# **ENGLISH LANGUAGE POLICY**

## **PURPOSE**

To provide opportunities to develop student's skills in the four dimensions of the English language: Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

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 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, and the capacity to develop reasoned arguments about interpretation and meaning.

## **GUIDELINES**

- The English domain is an essential component of the Discipline-based Learning Strand of the Victorian Essential Learning Standards.
- All students at our school will study a sequential English course based upon the learning focus statements contained within the Victorian Essential Learning Standards.
- Student's individual abilities must be monitored using formal measurements including School Entry Assessment (SEA) tests, running records etc, and learning opportunities must be provided that cater for the identified needs of each student.
- Student progress in all dimensions of English will be reported in half year and end of year academic reports, as well as be reported in the school's annual report.
- Reading Recovery will be available for all year 1 students identified as 'at risk'
- English study for each student will be not less than 10 hours per week, and timetable as early in the day as possible.
- Classroom Helpers programs will be offered to promote the partnership between home and school.
- Computer technology will be used to enhance English language learning.
- Students in all classes P – 4 will be involved in the Early Years literacy program.
- Student performances will be monitored according to VELS standards for English Language, NAPLAN testing for Grades 3 and 5, Statewide Benchmarks in Reading for Prep – 2, as well as the monitoring strategies outlined in the Early Years Literacy Program P-4.
- English activities that reflect the topics being studied at school, and are appropriate to each child's ability, will form a regular component of each student's homework regime.
- A staff member will be allocated the responsibility for coordinating English across the school as well as auditing the English resources in the school. Purchasing of English resources lies with the three teaching teams – Junior, Middle and Senior Schools in their Teaching and Learning budgets developed by staff and resourced by School Council.

## EVALUATION

All policies will be reviewed as part of the school's cyclic review process.

This policy will be reviewed in June 2012.



COUNCIL APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_