

LANGUAGE POLICY

Rationale:

Communication is fundamental to learning, as it supports inquiry and understanding, and allows student reflection and expression. As language is central to learning, all teachers are, in practice, language teachers with responsibilities in facilitating communication. Language learning provides students with opportunities to engage globally and builds understanding, tolerance and wonder about the world. Practices of differentiating the language learning experiences for students will provide inclusion and equity of access to the IB programmes offered by the school for all learners, including those who are learning in a language other than their mother tongue.

Aims:

The school community, through the authorisation of the School Board, considers that the study of languages, including English, is an essential skill for students. The study of languages aims to:

- help students to develop the knowledge, attitudes and skills they need to participate actively and responsibly in a changing world;
- provide a developmental approach to language learning from P – 10 that is integrated across the academic curriculum;
- provide a programme of literacy and language teaching that acknowledges the diverse language needs of students;
- develop communication and interaction skills in more than one language;
- value the prior language knowledge that students bring to their learning;
- establish connections with the different language and cultural groups within the community; and
- focus on the transdisciplinary nature of language learning and the interrelated skills of language, literature and literacy (Australian Curriculum).

Implementation:

- English is the language of instruction at Gold Creek School.
- The study of a second language is compulsory from years 2 to 10.
- Student participation within the IB PYP and MYP is based on levels of language proficiency and adjustments are made to cater to the different language levels of all students.
- The teaching of language is integrated across the curriculum and all teachers in all curriculum areas are responsible for teaching the language requirements for their subject group in the IB.
- The language programme provides consistency of practice in the teaching and learning of language that is integrated with learning in all subject areas.
- Language development across the curriculum is planned for using inquiry based pedagogies and formatively and summatively assessed.
- The mother tongue of students is acknowledged and parents are encouraged to access mother tongue lessons available by various external providers as well as school based events celebrating mother tongue language development.

Linda Baird
Principal

David Vernon
Board Chair

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Related Documents:

Gold Creek Language Procedures, Australian Curriculum – English and EALD, Languages , ACT ETD International Students and EAL/D guidelines, Gold Creek Language Acquisition Vision and Mission Statement