



MOONEE PONDS WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL JAPANESE LANGUAGE POLICY

BELIEFS:

- Learning a second language assists the development of literacy, language, communication and generic cognitive and life skills.
- It is desirable for students to be exposed to the learning of a second language.
- In our community the purpose and function of learning a second language is different to the purpose and function of learning English.
- The learning of a second language should enhance the appreciation of the ways of life, culture and thought in communities where the language is, or has been used, and
- The relationship between the school and its community is important to the success of the school's Japanese program.

AIMS:

- To deliver the Japanese program in accordance with the school's educational philosophy where practicable.
- To develop in all students a desire and willingness to listen, speak, write and read a second language in and beyond the classroom environment.
- To develop in students an interest in and an appreciation of the Japanese culture.
- To develop an environment in which students are free to approximate, experiment and take risks in learning Japanese, and
- To develop in students an increasing competency in Japanese.

GUIDELINES FOR ACTION:

- A second language is best learnt when it is whole, relevant and meaningful.
- The Japanese program will be related to the integrated curriculum unit being undertaken by the classroom teacher where practicable.
- Students learn a second language most effectively through immersion, demonstration, expectation, engagement, responsibility, approximation and response.
- Listening, speaking, reading and writing are inter-related and inter-dependent.
- Students formulate their own rules about language by approximating and by a process of experimentation.
- The core Japanese Program must be managed and delivered by a qualified specialist Japanese Language teacher/s.
- Professional development opportunities will be provided for the Japanese teacher and other interested staff.
- As far as practicable, involvement by the school community in the second language should be encouraged beyond the classroom program, and
- A range of resources will be provided to support the Japanese program. The Japanese program could also make use of:
 - Local resources
 - Neighbouring schools
 - Parental Resources/skills/talents/interests.
 - Activities and resources offered by the wider community.
 - Curriculum materials
 - Language Associations e.g. Japanese Language Teachers Association of Victoria (JLTAV)

EVALUATION

This policy was reviewed in 2June 2014.