Rationale

English is centered on the study of Language, Literature and Literacy. The study of English is central to the learning and development of all Officer Primary School students. It helps create confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens. It is through the study of English that individuals learn to analyse, understand, communicate with and build relationships with others and the world around them. It helps them become ethical, thoughtful, informed and active members of society. English conveys meaning through oral, visual and written media. It encompasses purposeful conversation, the ability to read both written and digital texts, and to effectively communicate through writing.

Aims

The English program aims to:

- Provide the opportunity for all children to develop their capacity and extend their ability in all language modes: listening, speaking, reading, viewing and writing.
- Develop the ability to speak, listen, read, and write effectively with confidence, purpose and enjoyment
- Improve knowledge of the ways in which language varies according to context, purpose, audience and content, and the capacity to apply this knowledge
- Develop knowledge of the linguistic patterns used to construct different texts, and the capacity to apply this knowledge, especially in writing
- Foster a broad knowledge of a range of texts and a capacity to relate this to aspects of contemporary society and personal experience
- Create purposeful opportunities for students to speak, write, create and reflect on increasingly complex and sophisticated texts.
- Develop 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.
- Encourage students to explore the meaning of texts, including multimodal, and to comprehend how meaning is conveyed.
- Use explicit teaching to enable students to become competent at critically reading, viewing, writing, speaking and listening.
- Empower students to apply their knowledge and skills in a variety of situations.
Implementation

- All students at our school will study a sequential English course based upon the outcomes explicit in AusVELS and in line with AIP focus areas.

- All teachers will be provided with up to date resources and will plan with their respective teams to develop and implement appropriate English activities for all students, each term.

- All teachers and students will use technology appropriately and effectively to support the learning of English, and in carrying out English activities in context.

- Students’ individual abilities will be monitored using formal measurements as determined by the Assessment Schedule, and learning opportunities will be provided that cater for the identified needs of each student.

- Literacy Support will be available for students who require it along with the development of Individual Learning Plans.

- Student progress in English will be reported in half and end of year academic reports, in line with the Government’s guidelines and the school’s Assessment and Reporting Policies, as well as be reported in the school’s annual report.

- English study for each student will be not less than 10 hours per week.

- English activities that reflect the topics being studied at school, and are appropriate to each child’s ability, may form a regular component of each student’s homework regime, consistent with the Government’s Homework Policy.

- A staff member will be allocated the responsibility for coordinating English across the school as well as implementing an English budget developed by staff and resourced by school council.

Evaluation

- This policy will be reviewed annually in conjunction with the Program Budget evaluation timeline.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in.... DRAFT