



English Policy

Rationale:

The study of English is central to the learning and development of all young Australians. It helps create confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens. It is through the study of English that individuals learn to analyse, understand, communicate and build relationships with others and with the world around them. The study of English helps students at Bonbeach PS develop the knowledge and skills needed for education, training and the workplace. It helps them become ethical, thoughtful, informed and active members of society and plays an important part in developing the understanding, attitudes and capabilities of those who will take responsibility for Australia's future.

Australia is a linguistically and culturally diverse country, and participation in most aspects of Australian life depends on effective communication in Standard Australian English. In addition, proficiency in English is invaluable globally, and with our links to Asia.

English helps students at Bonbeach PS to engage imaginatively and critically with literature to expand the scope of their experience. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have contributed to Australian society and to its contemporary literature and literary heritage through their distinctive ways of representing and communicating knowledge, traditions and experience.

Purpose:

The English curriculum aims to ensure that students at the end of each level:

- are at or above 'expected' levels in Reading & Viewing, Writing and, Speaking & Listening.
- learn to listen to, read, view, speak, write, create and reflect on increasingly complex and sophisticated spoken, written and multimodal texts across a growing range of contexts with accuracy, fluency and purpose.
- appreciate, enjoy and use the English language in all its variations and develop a sense of its richness and power to evoke feelings, convey information, form ideas, facilitate interaction with others, entertain, persuade and argue.
- understand how Standard Australian English works in its spoken and written forms and in combination with non-linguistic forms of communication to create meaning.
- develop interest and skills in inquiring into the aesthetic aspects of texts, and develop an informed appreciation of literature.

Implementation:

All students at our school will study a sequential English course based upon the outcomes contained within the Victorian Curriculum.

- All teachers will access the Victorian Curriculum online at <http://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>, and are required to work with their respective teams to develop and implement a joint English course for all students covering Reading & Viewing, Writing, and Speaking & Listening.
- Students in Foundation–2 classes will be involved in the Early Years Literacy Program.
- Students starting their schooling at Bonbeach PS at Foundation level will be individually assessed using the School Entry Assessment (English Online Interview) during Term 1.

- Individual abilities will be monitored using formal measurements including, but not limited to, running records, TORCH and PAT Reading; and learning opportunities must be provided that cater for the identified needs of each student, including enrichment and extension.
- Student progress in English will be reported in Semester 1 and 2 academic reports, as well as in the school's annual report.
- English study for each student will be not less than 10 sessions per week, consisting of (where possible) 2 sessions of literacy time-tabled each day.
- 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.
- Staff at Bonbeach PS will be encouraged to attend relevant Professional Development opportunities that will align with the current School Strategic Plan, Annual Implementation Plan, and be of benefit for the students, as well as personally.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year review cycle.

Approved by School Council on: 16 May 2017