

Seaholme Primary School

English Policy

Basic Beliefs

Active and effective participation in Australian society depends on the ability to speak, listen, read, view and write with confidence, purpose and enjoyment. The study of English, and the broader concept of literacy, is about the appropriate and effective use of language, the use of language as a means of learning and the development of knowledge about language.

Guidelines

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.

Implementation:

- 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 will be monitored as set out in the Literacy Assessment Schedule.
- Learning opportunities will be provided to cater for the identified needs of each student.
- Student progress in assessment tasks will be recorded on the Assessment Record Sheet. This record sheet will be added to and will track the progress of students from grades prep to year six.
- 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 year 1 students identified as 'at risk'
- English study for each student will be for 2 hours per day and 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, 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 implementing an English budget developed by staff and resourced by school council.

Evaluation:

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

This policy was last ratified by School Council in.... June 2009