



KALINDA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Policy: LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH (L.O.T.E.)

Reviewed:

RATIONALE

Learning Languages Other Than English fosters students' ability to think and reflect about the working of language, and develops mental flexibility and problem-solving strategies. Language and intercultural skills allow ready global communication. At Kalinda, Japanese is our chosen LOTE.

AIMS

- To enable speakers of English to gain some proficiency in speaking Japanese.
- To enable learners to demonstrate an understanding of simple verbal and written instructions in Japanese.
- To appreciate and respect the views of others and the way of life, culture and thought in Japan.
- To further develop self-awareness and a sense of personal and cultural identity.
- To promote interaction with Japanese people via the LOTE staff, Japanese interns, visitors to Kalinda and Japanese students from Higashi Primary.
- To pursue a proposed trip to Japan that will give students and the whole school a great chance to deepen their understanding of another culture and language.

IMPLEMENTATION

- The LOTE domain has two dimensions: Communicating in a language other than English, and Intercultural knowledge and language awareness.
- Kalinda continues to developed an active 'sister school' relationship with Kofu Higashi Primary School. Level 4 students produce a DVD performed totally in Japanese and exchange this with Kofu Higashi PS.
- Level 4 students produce a web page written in three types of Japanese writing; hiragana, katakana and kanji.
- A Japanese intern is fostered annually and participates in teaching activities with classroom teachers and the LOTE specialist. The intern works directly with Levels 1 & 2 students to introduce Japanese culture and language. The intern co-ordinator introduces a new intern, advertises for host families and organises the stay. The co-ordinator liaises with the intern, the host families and the school staff.
- Plans are underway for a trip to Japan in 2009.
- Kalinda students have opportunities to watch and participate with Japanese visitors. The community is informed of Japanese cultural events held in Melbourne through our school newsletters.

EVALUATION

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

This policy was last ratified by School Council on: