



PATTERSON LAKES PRIMARY SCHOOL

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ENGLISH POLICY

RATIONALE

The study of English is central to the learning and development of all young Australians. The reason as to why students must be successful in the study of English is to:

- Create confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens.
- Enable individuals to analyse, understand, communicate with and build relationships with others and with the world around them.
- Develop the knowledge and skills needed for education, training and the workplace.
- Help individuals become ethical, thoughtful, informed and active members of society.
- Develop the understanding, attitudes and capabilities of those who will take responsibility for Australia's future.

Active and effective participation in society depends on the ability to speak, listen, read, view, and write with confidence, purpose and enjoyment. The study of English is three fold. It is about the appropriate and effective use of language, language as a means of learning and the development of knowledge about language. Through language use, students convey and discover information, work through ideas and express feelings. Students learn how language works and how to use it well.

Learning about texts and language is important to the personal and social development of the individual. Students need to understand and control the English language to develop confidence and competence to meet the demands of school, employment and further education. The knowledge and skills of English are essential to people who contribute to political, social and cultural life and are active, informed citizens.

AIMS

- 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

- Students will be engaged in an English course based on the National Curriculum.
- Teachers will be required to work with their respective teams to further develop and implement an appropriate English course based on the content provided by the National Curriculum.
- Student learning will be monitored against the National Curriculum. The Patterson Lakes Assessment Schedule will be used to monitor students progress and assist in setting realistic school benchmarks.
- Literacy Support and Teacher Aides will be available for selected students who meet the criteria and are deemed in need of additional support in English.
- Guest speakers, e.g. authors, illustrators and storytellers may be invited to address students to enhance the English program.
- A coordinator and committee will be responsible for organising relevant professional development, raising staff awareness of best teaching and learning practice, purchasing and maintaining resources and the preparing of a budget.
- PLPS English continuums will provide the core curriculum content.
- PLPS radio station offered to interested students to encourage further development of Speaking and Listening.
- Staff will use the PLPS guidelines to plan cohesive and sequenced units of work.
- Independent Reading will be the recommended approach to teaching reading.

EVALUATION

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

CERTIFICATION

This policy was adopted at the School Council Meeting held at Patterson Lakes Primary School, on September 2013.

Signed.....
School Council President

Signed.....
Principal

Last updated: September 2013

