



Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School

ITALIAN POLICY

Rationale:

At Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School, we believe it is important to provide students with the challenge and opportunity to study a language other than English as a means to enhance their understanding, awareness and appreciation of Australian society as a multicultural and multilingual community within the context of a global world. In so doing, we believe that we are giving students vital skills that will enable them to participate in a broad range of experiences in the future use of the Italian language in social and cultural settings including leisure, work and study.

Aims:

We aim to:

- give students an enjoyable and successful experience in learning a language other than English;
- enable students to develop the important communication skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing in the target language;
- enable students to communicate in Italian via a meaningful and wide range of language activities;
- give students an understanding and appreciation of Italian culture
- develop in students, a positive attitude towards cultural and linguistic diversity and expose them to traditions, customs and lifestyle of another cultural group
- give students a solid grounding in the basics of LOTE thereby enabling them to successfully continue studying LOTE at secondary school and in further education
- foster in students the attitude that learning a language other than English is valuable and is a crucial tool in enhancing their participation in a multicultural and global society.

Implementation:

At Our Lady Help of Christians:

- Italian is taught from Foundation to Year 6;
- Each class is allocated one forty minute session each week;
- Units of work are planned to enable and ensure a sequential acquisition of the language from Foundation to Year 6;
- One theme is developed and covered per term, per class and for each one, appropriate learning outcomes are determined;
- Selection of unit topics is guided by the Australian Curriculum and Italian F-10 Scope and Sequence with consideration also given to student interest and special events;
- Italian lessons entail the use of a variety of teaching methods, strategies and resources (including ICT/Google Classroom)
- Assessment is a constant and ongoing process. Learning outcomes and indicators in LOTE are organised under 2 strands:
Communicating - Using language for communicative purposes in interpreting, creating and exchanging meaning

Understanding - Analysing and understanding language and culture as resources for interpreting and shaping meaning in intercultural exchange

Students are guided to demonstrate skills, knowledge and behaviours in both strands through their use and understanding of Italian;

- A range of assessment tools and tasks are used to monitor and demonstrate each student's knowledge and ability with the target language;
- The main emphasis of teaching is on communication and interaction in Italian;
- Students are encouraged to develop an awareness of how they learn best and adopt strategies to achieve success in their learning of Italian;
- A themed LOTE Celebration Day is held each year and also includes an appropriate incursion
- Year 5 and 6 students participate in an annual school based Italian Poetry recital;
- An annual budget that provides for the needs of the LOTE program will be developed by the LOTE teacher.

Evaluation:

This policy will be revisited every odd year (e.g. 2019, 2021), reviewed as part of the school's review cycle or as changes are made to the Victorian curriculum.

Further Information:

The essential Learnings for LOTE further support this document.

This policy was last reviewed and ratified by OLHC School Staff Term 1 2019