

Spensley Street Primary School
LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH (L.O.T.E.)
EDUCATION POLICY

BACKGROUND

Spensley Street has a long history of teaching Italian as its Language other than English. Although the teaching of Italian at SSPS pre-dates the present LOTE arrangements, specialist Italian tuition has been provided by The Department of Education and Training (DET) since 1987.

RATIONALE

Learning languages supports students' educational and personal development and enhances their vocational options. It broadens students' experience by giving them an insight into other cultures and develops their inter-cultural skills and understandings.

Research has found that literacy skills are transferable from one language to another, and that there are benefits in developing literacy in more than one language.

Learning another language allows students to more easily decode language, make comparisons between languages and draw conclusions about how language works.

We live in an increasingly culturally and linguistically diverse world. In an age where information, communication and global markets are playing an ever-increasing role, the ability to communicate effectively in other languages and with people from other cultures has never been more important.

DEFINITION

L.O.T.E. means languages other than English.

At Spensley Street Primary School the L.O.T.E taught is Italian.

PRINCIPLES

For general principles about teaching and learning, refer to the Spensley Street Primary School Teaching and Learning Policy.

Students are provided with developmentally appropriate learning experiences that are rich, challenging, stimulating and allow them to experience success.

Students are provided with meaningful opportunities for reading, writing, listening and speaking in Italian.

GOALS

The goals of the program are to:

- encourage in students a positive attitude towards second language learning
- enable students to gain some proficiency in speaking, reading, writing and listening to Italian
- develop in students, an awareness of language as a tool for communication and an awareness of how it works
- develop an understanding of Italian culture.

STRATEGIES

- Provide adequate time for students to achieve those goals in a specialist teaching program
- Immerse students in the spoken and written forms of Italian
- Provide a developmentally appropriate Italian curriculum that is engaging and meaningful to students
- Integrate other areas of the curriculum with Italian experiences where possible
- Under the present funding arrangements from DET, a specialist teacher will teach the Italian program.

References

School Vision Statement

School Philosophy

School Teaching and Learning Policy

School Assessment and Reporting Policy

Endorsed : 2003

Review: 2008