

Strategic Plan 2013 to 2017

Learning Area: English and Languages

Head of Learning Area: Andrew Matthews

Purpose and Core Values

- To guide students into an appropriate level of English and Language study so as to equip them for future enterprise, including further study at University.
- To develop students' skills so as to encourage their engagement in society as responsible citizens.
- To include relevant content in the course so that students are educated in the immutable truths ('values') of Scripture found and communicated in texts studied.

Speak properly, and in as few words as you can, but always plainly; for the end of speech is not ostentation, but to be understood. William Penn (1644 – 1718)

Vision and Strategies

- Provide a variety of levels of study (streaming and courses) to serve the needs of the cohort; teaching to point of need and guiding students to the appropriate level/course.
- Through Story and Cultural studies to develop awareness of others and the needs of others = responsible citizenship.
- Centre each unit on a core philosophical question, informed by Scriptural truth.

Three-Year Operational Goals

Languages:

- Increase to sustainable numbers in Year 11 and 12.
- Overseas trip for both languages in this period, planned every two years.

English:

- Advanced Stream: specific requirements and opportunities introduced and tested (assigned supplementary reading, Literature Festival excursion, Book in a day, writing competitions).
- Improvement of basic grammar knowledge (parts of speech, punctuation and sentencing).
- Full complement of senior courses running well from Literature to Trade Training Centre courses.
- Development of a core philosophical/Christian curriculum document for English.
- Introduction of Australian Curriculum to courses.
- Application and review of skills sequencing document in English Years 7 – 10.

Five-Year Operational Goals

Languages:

- Years 7 to 12, easily sustainable and transferable (to new teacher) detailed program.

English:

- Increased number of 'A' students as appropriate to cohort and level of study.
- Implementation of the core philosophical/Christian curriculum to all English courses and year levels as a means for decision making on content and key truths to be taught.
- Ensure that all key skills are taught in Years 7 to 10 (skills sequencing document).

Our Strategies to deliver on our Vision and five (5) year goal are:

Languages:

- Trips for students overseas.
- Use of Language Perfect with involvement of parents through advertising and contact.
- Continued review and detailing of programs and lessons.

English:

- Additional reading for staff to assist in application of Christian perspective in the classroom.
- Consultation with all relevant English staff and completion of the core Christian curriculum document for English.
- Time taken in Term 4 for planning Australian Curriculum implementation and review.

Challenges over the next 1 to 2 years are:

Languages:

- Refinement of Years 7 and 8 programs inspiring continuity in Language study.
- Years 11 and 12 programs in Stage 3 and/or online.
- Increasing numbers in Years 11 and 12 to sustainable levels.

English:

- Informing students and parents regarding the Advanced class streaming process and supplying sufficient support and extension for top students in Standard classes.
- Implementation of Australian Curriculum.
- Developing plans and resources for newly introduced texts.
- Implementing key truths strategy effectively.