CRAIGIEBURN PRIMARY SCHOOL

ENGLISH POLICY

Rationale:
At Craigieburn Primary School, we believe that all students’ learning will be enhanced by a consistent and comprehensive approach to reading and viewing, writing, speaking and listening. English is the key component of all areas of the curriculum. Literacy learning is taught in the context of meaningful reading, writing and oral activities using whole texts and focusing on how language is conventionally used to make meaning for specific purposes.

Aims:
- To communicate effectively as a functional member of society.
- To provide a program where students will be encouraged to be self-motivated in their attitude so they see purpose and value in their achievements in English.
- To encourage each child to reach their full potential in English.
- To implement a balanced program using the skills of Reading and Viewing, Writing, Speaking and Listening based on the Victorian Curriculum.
- To provide effective home and school links.

Implementation:
The English program will be based on the Victorian Curriculum, and the Early Years Literacy Program. Year level teams will develop English year and term planners, based on the Victorian Curriculum, from which they will draw the content of weekly planning.

Students will participate in two hours of literacy daily, where possible, in the first three hours of the day.

English as an Additional Language students will be identified and supported in and outside of the classroom through focused literacy teaching groups as well as in an EAL support program (see EAL Policy).

Reading and View
- Utilise and Share a wide range of resources which include oral, written and electronic texts.
- Differentiate within the classroom by matching students to appropriate texts.
- Plan for and explicitly teach comprehension strategies which include the 7 High Reliability Literacy Teaching Procedures and the Café program (grades 2-6).
- Read to students daily at all levels.
- Allow students to select their own books and read for enjoyment each day.
- Encourage students to read at home daily, having ready access to quality literature for their use in the classroom and at home. Every classroom has a classroom library.
- Ensure the classroom is a literacy rich environment.
- Incorporate conferencing and guided reading instruction for specialised guidance and goal setting.
Writing

- Allow time for daily writing and experiment with a variety of genres and written forms.
- Encourage children to develop their writing skills in; handwriting, grammar, spelling, editing and punctuation.
- Provide feedback on writing to students.
- Encourage sharing and responding to each other's work.
- Base writing sessions on the Early Years Writing Model (whole-part-whole).

Speaking and Listening

- Encourage oral language use in a variety of settings.
- Provide Speaking and Listening experiences which vary according to audience, situation, purpose.
- Students are encouraged to participate in discussion before, during and after tasks.
- Meaningful language experiences are provided to encourage rich oral language discussions.
- Provide resources and materials which support language learning.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's cyclic process or more often if necessary due to changes in legislation or regulations.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in Aug 2016 and will be reviewed 2019.