

Languages (AC) Language Acquisition (MYP)

The Languages/Language Acquisition curriculum is in line with the Australian Curriculum (AC) and the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (MYP) curriculum framework.

Telopea Park School has a strong tradition of excellence in language learning. It is a multicultural school where diverse cultures and languages are valued, and proficiency in a foreign language is respected as an important attainment. The goal of the languages program is to provide students with a working knowledge of the language in everyday use with a basis for further development of skills for further studies or for use in the workplace.

Language study at Telopea is compulsory. A language is selected by all students to be studied for four years, from Year 7 until the end of Year 10. You need to make your selection carefully as you will not be permitted to change. This four year commitment ensures enough curriculum time to achieve mastery of grammatical structures and vocabulary. It ensures that all students meet the requirements of the Middle Years Programme (MYP) of the International Baccalaureate.

Telopea Park School also caters for students who are new to the school in Years 9 and 10, when an Introduction to Languages course is made available to students.

Choosing a language

- Listen to different language samples - which one appeals?
- Do you have connections - family or friends?
- Is there someone with whom you might have the chance to speak one of these languages?
- Which language is most relevant to your future employment goals or travel plans?
- Do you already have skill in a particular language?
- Think in terms of a four-year course

French

- French is spoken in 44 countries
- French is the language of diplomacy at the United Nations, International Red Cross and Olympic Games
- France is a leading nation of the European Union
- Important in science, technology, medicine, agriculture, viticulture, cosmetics, fashion, gastronomy, the arts
- Important business partner for Australia; 191 French companies operate in Australia
- 31 Alliance Française cultural centres in Australia – one in Canberra

German

- German has the largest number of native speakers in the European Union
- The German economy ranks number 1 in Europe and number 4 world wide
- German is the second most commonly used scientific language
- Germans are world leaders in engineering and Germany has a remarkable history of innovators
- German is the language of Goethe, Kafka, Mozart, Bach and Beethoven.
- Indulge in their works in their original language
- From Angst to Zeitgeist, the number of cognates is immense. After all, German and English are related

Indonesian

- Indonesia, one of Australia's closest neighbours,
- an emerging economic powerhouse, and a top travel destination.
- Indonesia offers many business and employment prospects to Australians
- Over 400 Australian companies are established in Indonesia, where many Australians work and live
- In Canberra, many people work in Indonesia-related jobs, in government departments and private companies
- Australians love Indonesia's friendly people, their fascinating cultures, the tropical landscapes, and the rich flora and fauna

Telopea Park School
Lycée franco-australien de Canberra

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Languages/ Language Acquisition

Italian

- A major community language in Australia
- Important in music and art
- The Renaissance started in Italy
- The country is renowned for its cuisine, classic buildings and architecture

Japanese

- Japan is a major global driver of youth culture, through anime and manga
- Japan is a world leader in information technology
- Japan is a major ally to Australia in areas of trade and security
- Japan offers great employment opportunities and welcomes young people on working holidays

Mandarin

- Currently spoken by over 1 billion people around the world, about one fifth of the global population
- Acquire artistic skills through writing Chinese characters.
- Learn a new outlook on life through understanding the intricate details in of Mandarin language.
- Gives one the distinct advantage in terms of employment opportunities in Asia.
- Great opportunity to understand one's of the world most ancient cultures.
- With China's rising economic power, Mandarin will be increasingly useful in the coming years.

Spanish

- The second most spoken language in the world
- Spoken by 425 million people as a first language and many more as a second language
- Native speakers can be found across five continents and more than 21 countries
- Important in literature, music, dance and art
- Increase travel and career opportunities
- Rich and exciting culture
- Spanish is the second most used language in international communication,
- Spanish is an official language of the United Nation and its organisation

Benefits of learning a language

Learning a language enhances students' social, cognitive and intellectual potential.

Research has shown that bilingual students develop higher-order problem solving skills, and demonstrate greater flexibility towards issues and ideas.

As well as a greater capacity for lateral thinking it enables students to communicate with other users of that language. It also gives direct access to another culture, develops and expands students' cross-cultural understanding, empathy and harmony.

It provides opportunities to develop positive attitudes to diversity and offers access to employment opportunities both in the domestic and global context.

Telopea Park students participate in a wide range of ventures beyond the classroom, including regional, national and international contests as well as international exchanges and in-country experiences.

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