



# ENGLISH POLICY

## 1. Rationale or Purpose

The English Policy at Somerville Rise Primary School supports the school curriculum. The following basic beliefs guide the implementation of the English Policy:

- well-developed Literacy skills are fundamental to participating fully in our society
- literacy development is achieved by learning through language and learning about language

## 2. Policy Statement

At Somerville Rise Primary School we recognise that students commence school with varying degrees of literacy skills and are from a variety of backgrounds. Through our English program we build on these skills in the strands of reading, writing and speaking and listening. This will also include the teaching of spelling, grammar and handwriting.

## 3. Implementation

Somerville Rise Primary School's English curriculum is based on the Victorian Curriculum. Ten hours of English will be taught in classrooms each week.

Classroom teachers will:

- teach students the mechanics of how to speak, read and write
- encourage students to explore text meaning and how meaning is conveyed
- introduce critical approaches to the ideas and thinking contained in texts
- support students in the development of critical understanding about the ways writers and speakers control language to influence their listeners, readers and viewers
- use structures of standard Australian English, teaching to spell accurately and use punctuation effectively
- model appropriate writing, reading and speaking and listening

Students will:

- understand texts and recognise how language works within them, necessary for at school and beyond
- acquire the knowledge, skills and personal qualities that enable them to read, view and listen critically, and to think, speak and write clearly and confidently
- explore language through Little Explorers and The Inquiry approach

The school will endeavour to provide programs to support all students to achieve their full potential in all areas of the English curriculum.

## 4. Evaluation and review

This policy is due to be reviewed in **August 2020**.

The review will be the responsibility of the school's English team and will be based on feedback from participants and other staff members responsible for the policy's implementation.

This policy was ratified by School Council in **August 2017**