

MULTI CULTURAL POLICY

PURPOSE

The purpose of the MULTI CULTURAL POLICY at Baden Powell College is:-

- To recognise and acknowledge the many diverse cultural backgrounds within the college's community.
- To foster the college community's awareness and appreciation for their own and other cultures and celebrate it's enriching social significance.
- To develop positive attitudes, values and respect in creating a harmonious and balanced perspective of our multi cultural society.
- To provide opportunities for all members of the college community (not just those language backgrounds other than English) to participate effectively and successfully within our multi cultural society.
- To assist all students in developing competency and skills that will enable them to achieve to their full potential as outlined in the ESL policy.
- To foster a sense of security and cultivate a sense of belonging and unity through acceptance and understanding.

GOALS

Baden Powell College will provide opportunities for **students** to:

- Develop proficiency in English for both literary and social purposes as outlined in the ESL policy.
- Develop competency in a language or languages other than English (L.O.T.E. Italian & English).
- Enhance their knowledge of the multi cultural nature of Australia's past and present day history and the part that many cultures have played in shaping the nation that Australia is today.
- Become aware of the similarities that exist between their own and other cultures in order to foster a greater understanding and tolerance of Australians from different ethnic perspectives.
- Build upon and value their own backgrounds and experiences.

Baden Powell College will provide opportunities for **all college community members** to:

- Interact comfortably, become informed and be actively involved in their child's school life.

IMPLEMENTATION/GUIDELINES

The Multicultural Policy at Baden Powell College will:

- Be delivered across all curriculum areas and be reflected in all curriculum planning (utilising VELS, PoLT, assessment advice and the ESL policy) and also be incorporated within all college practices.
- Provide ESL and LOTE programs that embrace the multi cultural perspectives recognising that programs in themselves **do not** completely cater for multiculturalism.
- Assist ESL learners to access mainstream curriculum through the ESL program and all teachers utilising supportive ESL teaching strategies.
- Encourage all staff to undertake intercultural and interlanguage awareness professional learning opportunities so that they become competent and confident in promoting multicultural values, attitudes and skills across the curriculum.
- New arrival student's participation in programs which are provided specifically for them within and outside our college (e.g. through WELS and The Baden Powell College ESL Program).
- Encompass the study of Australia, past and present within our inquiry units, to help students gain knowledge and an understanding of their world and the how all cultures have contributed to the development of our nation Australia.
- Address incidences of prejudice, racism and stereotyping by dealing with them through all college community codes of conduct.
- Ensure that all college policies, documents and practices are written in a simple and accessible manner.
- Ensure that availability of information relevant to the **student code of conduct** and **major curriculum issues** have been professionally translated into the main languages of our college community, when requested

- Provide Professional interpreters for parent teacher interviews, and translations of individual school reports where requested by parents or teachers.
- Facilitate the provision and use of materials (resources) which are flexible enough to potentially embrace all cultures.

EVALUATION

- This policy to be reviewed as part of the college's two year review cycle, individually, in teams and with the community in 2014.