Languages-Italian Statement

The Languages-Italian Pathway 1 domain has two dimensions:

- Communicating in a language other than English
- Intercultural knowledge and language awareness.

The two dimensions of the Languages-Italian domain are closely linked; Communicating in a language other than English and Intercultural knowledge and language awareness.

In the Communicating in a language other than English dimension, students learn the knowledge, skills and behaviours relevant to the specific language being studied. The skills of this dimension include listening, speaking, reading, viewing, writing, and the use of body language, visual cues and signs. The application of these skills requires knowledge of linguistic elements, including vocabulary and grammar. This dimension requires familiarity with a wide variety of texts and genres in print and electronic form.

Communication skills in a language other than English foster intercultural knowledge and awareness of language as a system. The Intercultural knowledge and language awareness dimension develops students’ knowledge of the connections between language and culture, and how culture is embedded throughout the communication system. Progress through this dimension is demonstrated through performance in the language being studied. Students gain an awareness of the influence of culture in the learner’s own life and first language. Through cultural self-awareness, the ability to discuss and compare cultural differences is developed. This dimension involves developing curiosity about and openness to a variety of values and practices, as well as acquiring in-depth knowledge of a cultural tradition.

At Mary Immaculate Parish Primary School, Languages-Italian is taught by a specialist teacher. The Foundation to Year 2 students attend a specialist lesson of 45 minutes each week. The Years 3 to 6 students attend a 70 minute lesson each fortnight. The specialist teacher has regular contact with classroom teachers and the Director of Learning and Teaching to provide a program which supports the current classroom focus wherever possible. The specialist teacher provides incursions and excursions where appropriate. Assessment is ongoing and reported twice yearly against school based outcomes for students from Foundation to Year 6. In addition students in Year 5 and Year 6 are also reported against the AusVELS standards in our June and December reports.

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