

Languages

The subject Languages gives all students the opportunity to learn a language in addition to English. Burrowes state school students in Prep to Year 6 learn Chinese Mandarin.

'Mandarin' refers to Standard Chinese, which is based on the dialect spoken in China's capital, Beijing. Mandarin is the official spoken language and the language used for education in the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the Republic of China (ROC, Taiwan). Mandarin is also one of the four official languages of the Republic of Singapore, and one of the six official languages of the U.N.

The relationship between language, culture and learning is the basis of the Australian Curriculum subject Languages. All year levels are following the age-appropriate C2C (Curriculum into the classroom) units of work. Students learn about meaningful communication across different language and cultural systems and different contexts. They reflect on and analyse their own language and the language they are learning. This enables students to learn about how languages 'work' and how they relate to each other. Students also learn about how language and culture shape identity. They are assessed on their Communicating and Understanding, according to the C2C Marking Guides.

All students learn Chinese from Prep to Year 6, which aims to build a strong foundation in Chinese language skills and intercultural understanding and aligns with the National Curriculum.

The teaching and learning approaches of the Chinese subject focus on developing the students' four Chinese macro-skills (speaking, reading, listening and writing) and intercultural understanding, and to promote cultural appreciation in language learning. Units of work are collaboratively developed, with direction from the National Curriculum as well as the needs and interests of the students.