

# Christ The King Sixth Form College

## Language Policy

### Mission Statement

We are a Catholic College dedicated to the education and development of the whole person, so that all students can realise their full potential.

To achieve this is as community we will:

- ✚ Provide the highest standards of teaching and learning;
- ✚ Expect students to show commitment to their studies and the Christian values of the College;
- ✚ Provide equality of opportunity, with mutual respect and positive encouragement;
- ✚ Build and further develop a partnership with parents, schools, parishes, higher education and the local community;
- ✚ Value staff and support their professional development.

In doing this we will reflect Christ's teaching in the life and work of the whole College.

### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 As part of our mission, the College seeks to ensure that each student achieves to the best of his/her ability, and that language does not serve as a barrier to success.
- 1.2 The development and use of language skills is a fundamental aspect of all learning that takes place at Christ The King.
- 1.3 The importance of language development in the College is enhanced by the prominent role that language plays in all teaching and learning activity.
- 1.4 It is part of every teacher's role at the College to be a teacher of English and this is re-enforced via the work undertaken with students in each teaching group.

### 2 Language and Culture

- 2.1 The College celebrates and values the full range of students who form part of our diverse and vibrant community at Christ the King, including those for whom English is not their only language.

- 2.2 Where appropriate, students are encouraged to share their culture and/or language backgrounds at College events, area meetings, via curriculum or class based activities and through enrichment.
- 2.3 Students may request the use of the College as an examination centre for language-based examinations that have been studied externally. Wherever possible, financial and organisational requirements permitting, the College will seek to support such requests.
- 2.4 All lessons at the College are delivered in English except for French, Spanish and Italian language lessons which combine the use of English with the relevant other language.

### 3 **Support provided**

- 3.1 The college has mechanisms in place for identifying and supporting students who are experiencing difficulties with their use or study of English. Diagnostic testing, staff referral and student self referral are methods by which individual support requirements can be ascertained and agreed.
- 3.2 Additional learning support is available to students via the ALS team, and the curriculum has been designed to accommodate students' needs at Levels 1-3. Workshops and one to one support are also available and these can be accessed by all students.
  - 3.3.1 International Baccalaureate students for whom English is not their first language will be offered appropriate options in relation to the language element of their programme so that the course is fully accessible.
- 3.4 Advanced level students may choose to study a language as one of their subjects, but there is no requirement to do so.

### 4 **Meeting student needs**

- 4.1 The College curriculum offer has been designed to meet the needs of our partner school students. It is regularly reviewed in collaboration with each of these seven schools.
- 4.2 The current languages offer of French, Spanish, Italian and English (for non-native speakers) reflects the content and range of the curriculum delivered in our partner schools and the stated progression needs of Year 11 pupils.

## **5 Resources and training**

- 5.1 Staff and students are able to access and use appropriate resources related to the development of language skills. Resources include books, IT hardware, software, audio visual aids and examination materials.
- 5.2 The identification, purchase and distribution of resources used to deliver teaching and learning, including language, is overseen by the Vice Principal in liaison with Heads of Department, the Director of Finance and Estates and the Computer Services Manager. This is undertaken on an annual basis for large items of expenditure and at regular intervals throughout the year for smaller items.
- 5.3 The Learning Resources Centre contains a wide range of language based learning materials that can be used or borrowed by staff and students. Materials are purchased in liaison with teaching departments and updated/replaced on a regular basis. Resources are also available in all teaching departments.
- 5.4 Staff have access to training throughout the year. A College-wide scheme for applying for INSET is in operation and all teaching and support staff are informed of this as part of their induction.
- 5.5 In addition to externally run INSET courses, all staff have access to internal/college based training opportunities – including those specifically related to language.

## **6 Reviewing the Policy**

- 6.1 The Language Policy is developed in collaboration with all teaching and support departments to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of students.
- 6.2 In order to reflect the dynamic nature of language development the policy will be reviewed on an annual basis so that it can be amended or updated as appropriate.

**January 2009**