

Studies of Asia

Policy Statement

Studies of Asia refers to the explicit inclusion of content on Asia in the curriculum. *The Asia and Australia's engagement with Asia* cross-curriculum priority is embedded in all learning areas. It will have a strong but varying presence depending on its relevance to the learning areas. For each cross-curriculum priority, a set of organising ideas reflects the essential knowledge, understandings and skills for the priority.

Studies of Asia enables students to:

- learn about and recognise the diversity within, and between, the countries of the Asia region.
- develop knowledge and understanding of Asian societies, cultures, beliefs and environments.
- develop an understanding of the connections between the peoples of Asia, Australia, and the rest of the world.
- develop their Asian literacy in order to communicate and engage with the peoples of Asia so they can effectively live, work and learn in the region.

Rationale

Many Asian nations are growing rapidly and are regionally and globally influential. Immigrants from all these countries have historically contributed to Australia's development and will continue to do so in the future. An understanding of Asia underpins the capacity of Australian students to be active and informed citizens working together to build harmonious local, regional and global communities, and build Australia's social, intellectual and creative capital. It also builds understanding of the diversity of cultures and peoples living in Australia, fosters social inclusion and cohesion and is vital to the prosperity of Australia. (Asia and Australia's engagement with Asia: Australian Curriculum)

This policy has been developed in accordance with the cross-curriculum priorities of AusVELS – Asia and Australia's engagement with Asia. Croydon Hills Primary School has relationships with Maewon Primary School in South Korea. Our school regularly hosts staff and students from this school. Year 5 and 6 students and Croydon Hill's staff have participated in study tour exchanges, the latest being in 2013.

A relationship has also commenced with Jeongkok Elementary School in Seoul and a sister school relationship has been developed with Ungchun Elementary School in Yeosu following teacher exchanges in 2015.

In 2015 we were successful in becoming part of the Malaysian Bridge Program with our partner school Sultan Ahmad Tajuddin Primary School, which is in the North of Malaysia near the border with Thailand. A teacher exchange took place in Term 2, 2015 and the relationship is being maintained through digital workshops.

Implementation

- Croydon Hills Primary School has Indonesian as its study of Languages.
- At Croydon Hills Primary School, staff will include and document aspects of Asian content in integrated units and in Literacy and Numeracy activities where appropriate.
- A set of focus countries has been assigned as follows: Foundation: General. Junior: China even year, Japan odd year. Middle: Thailand even year, India odd year. Senior: South Korea even year, Vietnam odd year.
- The Studies of Asia curriculum team will identify and provide suitable materials and teacher support, through incidental and targeted Professional Development, with a focus on new technologies.
- The Studies of Asia curriculum team will maintain displays and publicity, through Facebook and newsletters and the Studies of Asia display in the community area of the school.
- The school will maintain and expand our relationships, including staff, student and digital exchanges, with schools in South Korea and Malaysia.
- A whole school Studies of Asia celebration is held each alternate year.

References

Australian Curriculum:



<http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/crosscurriculumpriorities/asia-and-australias-engagement-with-asia>

Ausvels: <http://ausvels.vcaa.vic.edu.au>

Connected to the World – A plan to internationalise Victorian schooling

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/learningdev/intrnatnlisingschlsplan.pdf>

Review

As part of the school's cyclic process