

Languages

SUBJECT DESCRIPTION:

Learning languages broadens students' horizons about the personal, social, cultural and employment opportunities that are available in an increasingly interconnected and interdependent world. The interdependence of countries and communities requires people to negotiate experiences and meanings across languages and cultures. A bilingual or plurilingual capability is the norm in most parts of the world.

Japanese

At Bass Coast College, we offer Japanese. Japanese is the official language of Japan, a nation of islands located in the East Asia region. Japanese is used for various purposes, including education, business and media communication. A feature of Japanese culture reflected in language use is the importance accorded to expressing humility and maintaining harmony.

Study

It is important to realise that it takes many years to become fluent in a foreign language and one of the very important parts of learning a foreign language is memorising new words and expressions, or, in the case of Japanese, a new written script. Students are expected to do 20-30 minutes three times a week covering memorisation of vocabulary, script and grammar.

While learning a foreign language is a demanding process, it can also be very rewarding and enjoyable if undertaken seriously.

Students will undertake their study by conducting simple conversations on a limited range of topics and producing written work focused on learning to read and write the hiragana script, although a small number of kanji (Chinese characters) are also included.

Students will explore topics such as: Japanese writing systems, greetings, self-introduction, friends, family, town, after school activities, food and culture.

This subject will also include learning songs, games and a general study of the Japanese people, their customs, lifestyles and country.

Assessment:

Students will be assessed by three Common Assessment Tasks.

Task 1 Achievement Standard

Students exchange meaning in a spoken interaction in Japanese.

Task 2 Achievement Standard

Students interpret information from texts and respond in Japanese and in English.

Task 3 Achievement Standard

Students present information in writing in Japanese for a specific audience and purpose.

They will be assessed by Other Assessment Evidence such as:

- Vocabulary Tests
- Grammar Tests
- Reading and Listening Comprehension Tests
- Japanese Composition Tests
- Class Observation: Role-Play, Pair work, Class Participation
- Homework