MULTICULTURAL POLICY
Ratified October 2010

PURPOSE

Glen Waverley Primary School is a multicultural school located within a multicultural community. In order for our school to truly reflect the needs and aspirations of our students and their families, we need to ensure that their multiculturally rich backgrounds are recognised, catered for, celebrated and valued.

GUIDELINES

- To develop a school ethos that reflects, responds to and values multiculturalism.
- Where possible, the school will acknowledge and respect/celebrate culturally significant events, and where possible use them as teaching/learning opportunities.
- To develop education programs and processes that accurately and positively reflect cultural pluralism, promote cultural inclusiveness and help all students to develop:
  - Proficiency in English
  - Competency in a language or languages other than English
  - In depth knowledge and awareness of their own and other cultures
  - An understanding of the multicultural nature of Australia’s past and present history, and of the interdependence of cultures in the development of the nation
  - Skills and understandings to interact comfortably and competently in intercultural settings
  - An awareness of the need for understanding and cooperation of the global village and national interdependence in areas of trade, finance, labour, politics and communications, and that the development of international understanding and cooperation is essential.

IMPLEMENTATION

- Teaching and Learning practices which promote multicultural values and attitudes and enhance understanding will be planned and undertaken as an integral part of the curriculum, in line with the VELs.
- Students, parents and wider community will be encouraged to value, maintain and share their respective cultures.
- Strategies and procedures which counter bullying, racism and prejudice will be included as part of Student Welfare.
- The School document development, all school policies processes, practices and programs will reflect, respond to and value multiculturalism.
- An ESL program will be provided to support and assist students with a Language Background other than English.
- A LOTE program will be provided to enable all students to develop competence in a language other than English and an understanding of the culture associated with that language. (Mandarin being the designated language.)
- Increasing opportunities will be provided to encourage parents with language backgrounds other than English to become active in the life of the school and its decision making process.
• Strategies will be developed to enable more effective communication with parents and community members with language backgrounds other than English
• Opportunities will be provided for staff to undertake formal and informal Professional Development programs to enhance understanding and promote multicultural values and attitudes.
• The multicultural curriculum includes study of a variety of cultures ie. Aboriginal, European, Asian, Middle Eastern, African, South American and Pacific Islanders.

EVALUATION

This policy was originally formed, and will be reviewed in consultation with all members of the wider community (all staff, parents, students, and interested members of the community) as part of the school’s three-year review cycle.