

LANGUAGE POLICY - DPSGI

The International Baccalaureate's Mission Statement

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

Delhi Public School Ghaziabad International Mission Statement

DPSGI aims to create global citizens by establishing systems to enable life long learning, self development and improved performance for continuous excellence. We also believe in making learning a joyful experience in a stimulating and intellectually challenging environment and ensure students develop intercultural respect and understanding.

The goal of this document is to collectively organize the views of the school community and elaborate to the community the types of language the school offers, the language of instruction, foreign languages available, English language requirements, assessments etc.

Language of instruction

DPSGI International has its language of instruction as English. The students come predominantly from the local Indian community, with a majority of them having the language spoken at home as Hindi or other local dialects. However, like most urban Indian students, our students are bilingual and can communicate effectively in both English and Hindi.

Parents themselves express a desire for their children to be immersed in English from the earliest days at school, taking responsibility for their child's continuing practice of his/ her native language at home. English is also the schools internal working language, and therefore all communications made to the stakeholders of the school are primarily in English.

The language policy is for the purpose of standardization across all classes and subject areas of the school. The on-going Language development is viewed as a shared responsibility of all teachers, parents and students.

Philosophy

At DPSG International, we believe language is a vital tool for learning, communicating and being an active member of a global society. As communication in the world changes, we have the responsibility for supporting our students to be multilingual learners. Language opens the mind and presents opportunities that will cultivate internationally-minded citizens. Teachers are role models for using and learning language and can foster a positive attitude toward language and literature. Language is the major connecting element across the curriculum. Therefore the focus is on not only language and literacy, but also on its application across the subject areas and throughout the transdisciplinary programme of inquiry. The English language arts are not perceived as individual content areas, but as one unified subject in which each of the five areas supports the others and enhances thinking and learning. The integration of knowledge, skills and strategies of the English language arts enables students to solve problems and think critically and creatively in all subject areas. Language is a driving force vehicle for integrated and inquiry based learning which is transdisciplinary in nature. Learning about how language works and also learning through language.

The power and richness of language along with the love and for literature is an integral part of the entire curriculum to expand horizons and build experiences.

- Students regularly read literature and non-fiction books and texts.
- Texts are read in and out of class, and then discussed, debated, compared and analyzed by students and guided by teachers.
- Books are carefully selected to reinforce the concept and ideas being taught.
- Emphasis is given on how students interpret, respond to, react for and against and reflect on various ideas, attitudes, feelings and emotions – socially, culturally and personally.

Language development is done by the integration of Oral (Listening and Speaking), Written (Reading and Writing) and Visual (Viewing and Presenting) skills.

- *Oral Communication is emphasized through individual Student Reports and Presentations in units which help students express themselves.*
- *Continuous Reading Assessments are done in order to chart the progress of every student over time. Students need to empower themselves to comprehend and analyse what they hear and read.*
- *Writing is of immense importance and the students are required to produce works for different purposes ranging from a book review, persuasive speech, debate, poem, letter, story, poster, lyrics of a song, script for a play to a narrative or analytical essay. Necessary skills are taught at all Grade levels.*

Language Assessment is a continuous and comprehensive process which is reflected in the multiple learning-teaching styles and strategies.

Language teaching is not restricted to a block of time or assigned to a single teacher. All teachers act as language facilitators at all times of interaction and communication.

The Library acts as a great facilitator for learning.

The DPSG International library is an information-rich, technology-dense learning center where students, faculty and staff come for research, quiet study and leisure reading. Its mission is to help students become effective, ethical users of information for academic & life success and for personal enrichment. Library resources are carefully selected to represent a variety of viewpoints on contemporary and historical issues, enhance and enrich all areas of the academic curriculum, and allow students to explore classroom subjects of personal interest more fully. The collection includes books, journals, newspapers, DVDs, videos and CDs. Online resources include carefully planned access to internet, e-resources & e-texts.

Mother Tongue

- *Hindi is valued and respected as it is central to gaining higher cognitive skills, cultural development and transmission of cultural identity.*
- *Mother Tongue (Hindi) is taught from Prep to Grade 10 compulsorily to all students.*
- *We seek to provide opportunities for students to read, write, and speak in their mother tongue in situations where we believe this will enhance the quality of teaching and learning and consequently, student understanding.*

Additional Language

- *In grades 3 to 5, the students are exposed to French/German once a week for 40 minutes.*
- *Other than English and Hindi an additional language is required from Grade 6 onwards as it enriches our intellectual and social growth. French, German, Japanese and Sanskrit are offered as the additional third language.*

We believe that language is a powerful tool which opens the gateways of understanding our own and other cultures. Being fluent in a language indicates a profound reverence for that culture as well. We want our children to know how to use and appreciate the power of language with integrity. We believe that language can inform our mind, caress and comfort our feelings, excite and thrill our spirit, or warm and kindle the flame of our hearts. It gives us the self-confidence to hold our heads high in a globalized environment.

There is no formal examination system for grade Nursery to 5. The objective of assessment is to monitor a child's level of development without comparing it with others. Through continuous evaluation, a comprehensive profile of his/her performance is assimilated and conveyed to the parents twice in a year.

Formulated by: Language Department of DPSGI

Formulated on: 30th January, 2015

Last revised on: 30th March, 2017

Next Policy Review on: 30th March, 2018