



WOODVALE SECONDARY COLLEGE

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to the Languages Learning Area at Woodvale Secondary College for 2017. We would like our students to enjoy learning about an Asian culture and language as well as to provide them with a good starting point for a lifetime of learning about cultures and languages and all the related benefits.

Some key points for you regarding the many benefits of studying a language:

- improves literacy skills in the first language;
- increases options in future life experiences, e.g. career opportunities;
- fosters a deeper understanding and greater appreciation for cultural, social and individual differences;
- instils discipline and independence in learners;
- Year 12 ATAR course - LOTE bonus (+10% on scaled score for university pathway students).

In line with the College's priority of positive education we request your support in promoting a growth mindset in languages courses, where students:

- Embrace challenges, persist in the face of setbacks, see effort as the path to mastery and find lessons and inspiration in the success of others.

'Major changes in the world are placing new demands on Australian education... Australians need to become Asia literate, engaging & building strong relationships with Asia.'

The Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians, Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (Commonwealth of Australia, 2008)

The College has strong Japanese and Mandarin language programs Year 7-12. Nationally recognised and accredited vocational education and training courses (VET) are running. Certificate II Applied Languages completed in Year 10 Japanese and Chinese, is used by students to meet Year 12 WACE requirements and can reduce the number of courses students then need to do in Year 11 and 12.

The College has successful sister school relationships with schools in Japan and China. Details about the trips to Japan and China this year are available from language teachers.

Please don't hesitate to speak with your child's teacher or myself via email, should you have any queries.

All the best for a productive and successful year! Thank you in anticipation of your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully

Languages Learning Area Team
Karen Vardy
(Teacher in Charge Languages)

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