

# **LALOR EAST PRIMARY SCHOOL ORAL LANGUAGE CENTRE POLICY**

## **Rationale**

Lalor East Primary School recognises the need to provide an Oral Language Centre to enable students to:

- develop a strong oral language base as a foundation for further learning
- develop social and organisational skills necessary for learning
- build children's self confidence and self esteem
- develop resourcefulness and creativity that will assist them to be creative in their thinking.

## **Broad Guidelines**

The program aims to equip students with the knowledge and skills to support literacy skills through speaking and listening

The OLC program will:

- provide an intense focus on developing AusVELS Foundation to Level 2 Speaking and Listening standards
- provide opportunities for rich engagement in speaking and listening and other literacy dimensions
- allow teacher scaffolding and the opportunity to instruct and extend where appropriate
- be based on a child initiated and child centred approach
- provide a non-threatening and caring environment
- provide play opportunities that will not be dominated by the teacher
- ensure the educational value of the play is maintained by teacher guidance
- provide directed and undirected play situations that provide opportunities for children to practise language
- provide many opportunities for students to return to an item of play thereby extending their point of interest
- provide open ended tasks that allow for differentiation
- provide natural high quality materials to encourage respect for equipment
- provide a stimulus and purpose for student writing.

## **Implementation**

Specific implementation guidelines will be developed in consultation with classroom teachers and Oral Language Centre teachers. Yearly student and staff numbers will be taken into account when developing implementation guidelines.

- all Prep to Grade 2 children will take part in the program
- the program will be play based
- prep classes will use the OLC with their classroom teacher running their program
- the use of oral storytelling with visual scaffolding is essential to the program
- concepts and understandings from all curriculum areas will be incorporated into the program both explicitly and incidentally
- a detailed term program referencing the appropriate standards at each level will be followed
- each session will end with a teacher directed whole group oral language activity and a share time.

## **Evaluation**

The program will be regularly evaluated and modified as required using the following formal and informal approaches:

- observations and anecdotal records
- feedback from staff
- English online interview P-2 testing
- AusVels Speaking and Listening
- teacher judgement.