Languages Other Than English (LOTE)

**Time allocation:** 1 hour per week - becoming language literate (yrs 3-6)
Equivalent to 1 hour per week – becoming global society (F-6)

**Rationale:**
The language that was selected to be taught at Epsom Primary School is Chinese – Mandarin. This is complemented by the Chinese exchange program that school implements.
The program is divided into two components:
- Becoming part of a Global society: through cultural appreciation, which encompasses making comparisons between the Chinese and Australian culture as well as social and cultural appreciation.
- Becoming language literate: through the learning of Chinese - Mandarin

**Purpose:**
1. To enable speakers of English to gain some social and functional proficiency within a Language Other than English.
2. To assist learners to develop an awareness of the importance of literacy and language as a powerful tool for communication in a diverse world.
3. To enable learners to appreciate and respect the views of others, their social customs and cultures both within our own multi-cultural society and the world.
4. To prepare learners for increasing participation in all aspects of social and cultural life, in a multi-cultural world.
5. To use new technologies to engage students in meaningful use of language

**Guidelines for implementation:**
1. The target language for the current period will be Chinese, which will be implemented as a second language program. This will be taught by a trained language teacher
2. LOTE program will be planned and implemented in line with the Victorian Government’s Vision for Languages Education and AUSVELS cross-curriculum priority of ‘Asia and Australia’s engagement with Asia.
3. The LOTE program will be addressed across all year levels as follows:
   - An integrated cultural awareness approach P-6, incorporating history and social customs. This will be done through inquiry and will be complete in a term focus
   - A language acquisition program will be implemented in the 3-6 classrooms, run by the Chinese Language Teacher
   - Chinese exchange program, where year 5/6 students apply to visit the sister school in China. This is reciprocated by Chinese students staying with host families and attending class in the 5/6 area for 8 weeks.
   - Chinese cultural celebration day, held yearly.

**Resources:**
The Victorian Government’s Vision for Languages Education (October 2012)
AUSVELS documentation