PURPOSE
- To develop an appreciation of the interrelatedness of languages and other cultures through the learning of another language other than English.

POLICY GUIDELINES
- Italian is the nominated LOTE at KEPS and is taught in all Levels 1-4;
- LOTE Italian is taught to develop communication skills in speaking and writing; and to enhance general linguistic and literacy skills. The LOTE program also develops an appreciation of the Italian language and culture and its contribution to our society;
- Learning a language demonstrates the interrelatedness of languages and culture and builds students’ self-expression and sense of achievement;
- LOTE is an important and legitimate part of the learning experiences of Australian children;
- The isolated nature of Australia precludes many Australian students from experiencing a variety of cultures. Learning a language other than English enhances cross-cultural communication and improves students’ knowledge of customs, history, geography, literature and the arts. Students become aware and tolerant of the lives of people from diverse background;
- Learning a language demonstrates the interrelatedness of languages and culture and builds students’ self-expression and sense of achievement;
- A comprehensive program is implemented by the LOTE teacher. All students from levels one to four will be given the opportunity to learn the Italian language and be included in the various activities presented;
- Students experience the language in the classroom where the lesson is communicated in Italian and the visual aids engage and motivate students;
- The LOTE classes reinforce and support the Integrated curriculum and the Annual Implementation Plan in Speaking and Listening;
- Students have access to computer games and the interactive whiteboard for cultural and language activities and to facilitate enjoyment and appreciation of the language;
- The LOTE coordinator will be responsible for the development of the school LOTE policy, program and assessment and reporting;
- The Victorian Essential Learning Standards and the Annual Implementation Plan form the basis of planning, implementing and evaluating the LOTE program;
- The LOTE teacher establishes the standards appropriate at each level that progress to the standards documented in VELS. A progression point is only given at Level 4; and
- VELS standards and progression points are documented at 3.25 to 6.75.

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION
- All students will receive 1x 50 minute LOTE lesson weekly;
- The LOTE coordinator will be responsible for the administration and provision of resources and equipment;
- Sequential lessons are created for each level using the Victorian Essential Learning Standards. Activities include singing, speaking, listening, writing, games and role plays;
- The coordinator will investigate and purchase current resources to support the teaching of Italian.
- Wherever possible the integrated units and the Annual Implementation Plan will be incorporated into The LOTE program.; All children will be given the opportunity to learn and express themselves using a wide variety of media and resources;
- Students are encouraged to work cooperatively and to develop the use of Thinking Tools; and
- LOTE is reported on each semester for all students levels 1-4

EVALUATION
The LOTE policy will be reviewed by the Education Subcommittee on a cyclical basis in accordance with the School Council policy review schedule or as required.

Policy Area: Teaching & Learning
Ratified School Council: December 2010
Next Review: 2014