



French Binational Programme Policy

Purpose/Rationale

Since its inception in 2014, Auburn High School has offered a pathway that combines French *Instructions officielles* and Victorian curriculum from year 7 to year 9 to allow students proficient in French languages to learn in a fully bilingual environment and continue to develop in both French and English. The French Binational program has been accredited since 2016 by the French Ministry of Education. Students completing the program sit for the formal French end-of-cycle examination, *Diplôme National du Brevet*, in June of their year 9. The program seeks to address over the 3 years course the requirement of both the French Ministry of Education and the Victorian Curriculum. It allows students to move back quickly in both standalone programs at any stage of the 3 years course.

The French Binational program supports students to grow as confident learners in French and English and develop as curious and compassionate individuals who are used to embracing different perspectives in their learning. These values are echoed in Auburn High School's Diversity, Aspiration Respect, and Excellence values and the Auburn Learner Qualities (ALQs).

Implementation

The French binational Program is a specialist program that works closely with the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) accredited course for the Junior years and extends it by considering simultaneously French Ministry of Education requirements. It attracts additional costs that the Department of Education does not fund. Therefore, participation in the French binational program incurs a specialist program fee which covers the following:

- AEFÉ registration and accreditation with the French Ministry of Education
- Annual affiliation fees
- Coordination and management of the Program
- Staff professional learning requirements
- Ongoing curriculum consumables
- Staffing specific requirements

Students wanting to join the program are assessed for suitability before being offered a place. Placement in the program is valid for the school year and must pay the program fee in full.

A pro-rata of 1 to 3 terms fee can be charged when a new student's intake occurs during the first year of attendance.

An extended absence may exit the student from the program during the term. Auburn High School may offer this place to another student. A subsequent return to the program will be a new enrolment.

For students exiting to move overseas, exceptional circumstances can be considered for a partial refund of the program fee. Such requests rest at the school principal's discretion and need to be submitted in writing with all supporting documentation.

Review Period

Policy developed: March 2022

This policy will be reviewed every two years.