

LANGUAGE POLICY

Philosophy

Hope Christian High School recognized that language plays an important role in all learning areas and is fundamental in student learning. Language allows the student to express and communicate his/her thoughts and ideas, as he/she gains knowledge and learns to construct learning in meaningful contexts.

Language of Instruction

All PYP teachers are language teachers, and all students are language learners. Teachers address the language needs of the students in the language of instruction. Teachers make sure that language is integrated in learning and used in meaningful contexts. All classroom teachers are responsible for teaching the language of inquiry, social and science, language, and mathematics.

At Hope Christian High School, English is the language of instruction being used primarily in the units of inquiry, math, language and arts. The PYP Language Scope and Sequence document is used to guide teachers at every stage of the language teaching and learning process.

For those who are having difficulty in the language of instruction, we used differentiation and intervention in teaching the second language – Filipino and/or Mandarin.

Other Languages

As the host country language and the mother tongue of some students, Filipino is taught as early as kindergarten. Students who are 5 years old and up are introduced to the language, as this is required by the Department of Education in the Philippines. Additional support such as enhancement classes is given to students who are non-Filipino speakers, enabling them to be more confident in understanding and learning the language.

Mandarin is another language used in teaching and learning at Hope Christian High School. Being a Filipino-Chinese school, the School also places importance in learning the language to gain an understanding of the Filipino-Chinese culture. As early as 2 years old, Mandarin is introduced to the students to promote one's culture. Students studying this language are grouped according to their proficiency. Thus, ensuring support for both mother-tongue Mandarin speakers and learners of Mandarin.

Sources:

Developing Language Policy 2008
Guidelines for Developing a School Language Policy
Learning Other Language
PYP Language Scope and Sequence
PYP Standards and Practices