

# **Sage International School**

## **Primary Years Programme**

### **Language Policy**

#### **Philosophy Statement**

Language is a creative, interactive system to comprehend, communicate meaning, and express feelings. It consists of the interrelated strands of listening, speaking, reading, writing and non-verbal cues. We believe language is integral for the acquisition and development of academic, social, cultural, and emotional understanding. Language instruction involves the belief that planning, teaching, assessing, and reflecting are interconnected processes. We believe that inquiry is the way children learn best, and language is the vehicle for delivering the inquiry process across all content areas. Sage staff and community are dedicated to supporting and challenging all students to be confident communicators and collaborators. We strive to foster well-educated citizens of the world and to instruct the minds of those who will shape our future.

#### **The Language of Instruction**

English is the language of instruction at Sage International School. We value differentiated and varied instruction that integrates the skill areas of oral (speaking and listening), written (reading and writing) and visual language (viewing and presenting). Data is collected on each student (see Assessment policy). This data is used to guide instruction, monitor student progress, increase student achievement and determine if Sage International students are meeting Annual Yearly Progress (AYP).

#### **Additional Language at Sage International**

French is the second language of instruction at Sage International. We believe rich, meaningful exposure and immersion results in language acquisition. We have a full-time French teacher who teaches all PYP students. Students receive direct language instruction weekly. We strive to make natural connections to our IB units of inquiry and to integrate French into other disciplines across the curriculum.

#### **Mother Tongue Support**

Culture is closely related to language and is an essential component of instruction. All parents complete a home language survey, and if a language other than English is spoken in the home, their English level is assessed using the W-APT (WIDA-Access Placement Test). Sage offers English Language support for students based on their individual needs. As PYP educators we support all students and believe the mother tongue language is crucial for maintaining cultural identity and emotional well-being.