



HVB GLOBAL ACADEMY, IN793

LANGUAGE POLICY

UPDATED IN LINE WITH NEP 2020

https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English_0.pdf

MULTILINGUALISM AND THE POWER OF LANGUAGE AT HVB GLOBAL ACADEMY

HVB enjoys a diverse mix of students who speak different languages. It is well understood that young children learn and grasp concepts more quickly in their home language/mother tongue. Home language is usually the same language as the mother tongue or that which is spoken by local communities. However, at times in multi-lingual families, there can be a home language spoken by other family members which may sometimes be different from mother tongue or local language.

As per our school mother tongue statistics and data collection we have the below percentage of students speaking varied languages as their mother tongues:

LANGUAGE – MOTHER TONGUES	PERCENTAGE *APPROX
HINDI	44%
MARWARI	17%
GUJRATI	27%
MARATHI	5.5%
URDU	1%
SOUTH INDIAN	1%
PARSI	1%
SINDHI	1%
BENGALEE	1%

At HVB the medium of instruction is English. Teachers are encouraged to use a bilingual approach, including bilingual teaching-learning materials, with those students whose home language may be different from the medium of instruction. All languages are taught with high quality resources to all students; a language does not need to be the medium of instruction for it to be taught and learned well.

As research clearly shows that children pick up languages extremely quickly between the ages of 2 and 8 and that multilingualism has great cognitive benefits to young students, children are exposed to different languages early on, starting from the Primary years. At HVB we follow the three-language formula which is further enhanced with a Foreign Language choice Grade 8 onward. All students beginning Grade 1 to Grade 7 study State Language Marathi and National Language Hindi.

All languages are taught in an enjoyable and interactive style, with plenty of interactive conversations, and with early reading and subsequently writing in different languages. HVB has invested in many

language teachers to teach English, Hindi, Marathi and French. Extensive use of technology is made available for teaching and learning of different languages and to popularize language learning on school campus. Numerous activities are undertaken as a part of celebrating multiple languages on campus like debates, competitions, slogan writing, role plays, street plays, community awareness projects and special days, like Hindi Diwas, Inter-House Drama and French Day are celebrated at school.

Being well educated in one's language, culture, and traditions is not a detriment but indeed a huge benefit to educational, social, and technological advancement. India's languages are among the richest, most scientific, most beautiful, and most expressive in the world, with a huge body of ancient as well as modern literature (both prose and poetry), film, and music written in these languages that help form India's national identity and wealth. For purposes of cultural enrichment as well as national integration, all our young learners are made aware of the rich and vast array of languages of their country, and the treasures that they and their literatures contain. This understanding of different States of India and Languages is initiated through long distance trips to different parts of India. Every student in the school participates in a fun project/activity on Languages under the larger learning banner of EOE (*Extravaganza of Expressions) wherein along with other subject areas, students develop remarkably interesting learning experiences around the languages they study at school. Inter-language projects are initiated during EOE to promote learning about the remarkable unity of most of the major Indian languages, their common phonetics, their common grammatical structures, their origins, and sources of vocabularies, as well as their rich inter-influences and differences. When students return from their trips, they enjoy writing reflections on the geographical areas they visited and speak about the things they have learnt like commonly spoken phrases and sentences from that area of visit. Such an activity gives them both a sense of the unity and the beautiful cultural heritage and diversity of India.

The importance, relevance, and beauty of the classical languages and literature of India also cannot be overlooked. Sanskrit, while also an important modern language mentioned in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India possesses a classical literature that is greater in volume than that of Latin and Greek put together. Our students participate actively in Geeta Chanting for which they train at school as well as participate in numerous competitions and have won many prizes and recognition.

In addition to high quality offerings in Indian languages and English, foreign language French is offered at the lower secondary and higher secondary level, for students to learn about the cultures of the world and to enrich their global knowledge and mobility according to their own interests and aspirations.

The teaching of all languages is enhanced through innovative and experiential methods, including through gamification and apps, by weaving in the cultural aspects of the languages - such as films, theatre, storytelling, poetry, and music - and by drawing connections with various relevant subjects and with real-life experiences. Thus, the teaching of languages is also based on experiential-learning pedagogy.