



LANGUAGE POLICY

PYP, MYP and DP

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LANGUAGE PHILOSOPHY AND STATEMENT

Neev Academy believes that language is a fundamental element of identity and culture and that it is the basis for thinking, communicating, learning and viewing the world. Following from these two beliefs, Neev believes that the mother- tongue of each student is important and must receive support in the school in the course of the student's learning another language. To foster international mindedness, Neev, believes that all students should learn at least two languages: English, as it commonly accepted as a language of communication in the country, and one other language. Given the status of English in the country and in the school, Neev believes that all teachers are language teachers, so that students gain proficiency in the language across a range of disciplines, and that students should receive equal opportunity to access these languages. The school also believes in according a high level of respect to the host language of the country and the state, since they are different from each other.

Neev's core values – Grit, Grace and Honour.

Neev's Mission statement - The Neev mission - Building knowledge, self- awareness and relationships with people and the environment to seek happy, healthy, impactful lives.

Link between language policy and other policies:

- **Link to Admission policy** : At the time of admission students provide the following information as mentioned in the admission form :

- Language understood by the student
- Language spoken by the student

The languages policy is linked with DP admission policy as the English language proficiency of external students are judged at the time of admission to DP. DPC reviews language background of the student after consultation with language teachers, students and parents. After this the DPC recommends level of language for the student at DP.

- **Link to Inclusion policy** : As included in the admission form - at the DP enrollment phase, students are expected to appear for a test in English language followed by an interview. The feedback from the test enable us to assess the literacy levels of the new students with a view to liaise with and make adequate arrangement, where necessary, in consultation with the language teachers, learning support coordinator and members of the LS (Learning support) department. Additionally inclusive access arrangements (as permitted by IB) will be made for IBDP assessments and school's assessments. Also at the time of admission, parents are asked to report with adequate evidence of any assessed learning and physical difficulties/disorders to enable the school to make appropriate inclusion access arrangements (as permitted by IB)
- **Link to Assessment policy**: The language proficiency of students are judged at the time of admission. Additionally different formative and summative assessments at DP in language A and language B will be conducted to ensure that both assessment approaches of '**Assessment for learning**' and '**Assessment of learning**' can be effectively applied.
 - Referencing and Bibliography style adopted by the school is MLA⁸.

LANGUAGES AT NEEV

At Neev, English is the operational language across all three programmes. English is used as the language of instruction for all subjects except other languages where the target language will be used primarily with English used as a scaffolding technique.

Outside of the classroom teachers and students are free to express themselves in language/s of their choice.

As a school we are in the process of developing spelling protocol across programmes (from PYP to DP) for consistent use of either US or British spelling. In no case, the school will allow the mixture of both US and British spelling to be used by students.

PYP: In the primary years, students develop the ability to think, reason, analyse, communicate, express ideas, feelings and act rationally, through the medium of instruction, which is English. Language is an effective tool, required to organize and express our thoughts and opinions. Hence we inspire our students to hone their language skills to the maximum by providing them with a rich range of language learning opportunities. Students will also learn an additional language in the Primary Years.

MYP: Students seamlessly transition to the Language and Literature programmes in the Middle Years and continue to develop both linguistic skills and work more closely with English and World literature. The four skill areas in PYP language ; Oral language(Listening and Speaking), Visual language(Viewing and Presenting), Written language - Reading and Writing are further developed through the Middle Years Programme. The Middle Years Programme, aligned with our own vision, requires the study of at least two languages to support students in understanding their own cultures and those of others. The Language Acquisition programme is aimed at meeting these requirements. Students continuing on to the Diploma Programme (DP) will be grounded in at least one additional language besides English.

DP: The MYP Language and Literature programme offers several pathways into the Language A - Literature or the Language and Literature courses in the Diploma Programme. The Language Acquisition programme leads to Language A or B in the Diploma programme.

LANGUAGE OPTIONS FOR THE STUDENTS OF NEEV ACADEMY

In our mission to create global-minded citizens, open to the richness of other cultures and languages, all the while instilling a sense of pride in their own, we offer foreign language programmes, which enrich and open new horizons. In Neev, the students have several languages to choose from.

The students of Grades one to five will have to study any one of the following languages as an additional language in the PYP and from **Grades six to ten** will have to study any one of the following as Language Acquisition in the MYP.

Hindi
French
Spanish

ENTRY AND EXIT POINTS FOR ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE -PYP/LANGUAGE ACQUISITION-(MYP)

The language combinations offered are:

Grade	Additional Language – Primary Years Programme (PYP)
1- 5	Hindi/French/Spanish (choose any 1)

Grade	Language Acquisition – Middle Years Programme (MYP & DP)
6 - 10	Hindi/French/Spanish (choose any 1)
11 -12	Hindi B at SL & HL and French B/Spanish B at SL French Ab Initio SL, Spanish Ab Initio SL

NOTE:

1. In the MYP, language acquisition is organised into six phases. In Grade 6, teachers will decide the most suitable phase in which to place the individual student based on a baseline assessment (placement test) conducted at the beginning of the academic year.
2. In the DP, we have expanded our subject offering and have included French and Spanish at both levels, Ab initio and Language B.

In Neev, students learn at least two languages across all three programmes of IB and are encouraged to learn more. This encouragement comes in the form of school supported events such as Language Day etc. detailed later in this policy document.

In ICSE curriculum offered by the school, in addition to the first language - English, each student learns two other languages, as Second and Third Languages. Third Language is offered from grade 5 and continues until grade 8. The choice of languages are:

2nd Language	Hindi/ French/ Spanish
3rd Language (Grade 5 - 8)	Hindi/ French/ Spanish

NOTES:

- Students will continue with the additional language selected in Grade 1 (PYP) till Grade 5.
- In Grade 6 (MYP), for the Language Acquisition subject group, the student may opt for a different language than one selected in the PYP. The student will then continue with the same language till Grade 10.
- Students who intend to take up the ICSE curriculum will choose a third language (Spanish, Hindi or French) in Grade 5 and will continue with the same language till Grade 8.
- To be able to offer a second or third language option, there should be a minimum of 3 students asking for it.

LANGUAGE PROFILES AND ADMISSION POLICY

In Neev, we have students of multiple nationalities, with their primary language of communication as English. These are the numbers pertaining to it:

Nationality	No. Of Students
Indian	511
American	67
Italian	1
German	3
Korean	1
Canadian	2
Dutch	3
British	7

All students applying to Neev should sit for an admission test which checks their language proficiency in English.

LANGUAGE PRACTICES

- Neev supports language development in a holistic, student-centered manner within a positive and caring environment.
- As language is fundamental to learning, all teachers are language teachers: all subject teachers provide prompt feedback on language in their respective classes.
- The school provides access to as many languages as practically possible through an active teaching and support program.
- Language learning at Neev is developmentally appropriate and differentiated to meet the needs of the individual student.

The following practices are observed by the school to ensure multi-lingual exposure for its student community, within and beyond the academic rigour.

1. Language Day (Annual Event)

Language Day is observed in the School annually, to celebrate the diversity of languages, with an intention to promote multilingualism. The event gives the learning community an opportunity to connect with their native language.

The celebration involves, formation of language groups, comprising of parent volunteers, students and teachers. The choice of language is voluntary in nature. Each group puts up a stall to showcase displays representing each language and the culture it represents. Participation in activities like, folk music and dance, offering ethnic regional cuisine and display of local costume allows for use of language and vocabulary intrinsic to these activities.

2. Neev Litfest (Annual Event)

The Neev Literature Festival (www.neevliteraturefestival.org) aims to recognize great literature for children of all ages, grow readers for life, and make reading part of every home. The festival includes conversations between authors, publishers, educators, parents, and children, as well as numerous events and workshops centered around books and reading.

3. Neevotsav

The school celebrates Neevotsav every year in which students across grades perform different skits/acts. These skits/acts incorporate dialogues in different languages.

4. Multi-lingual Commentary in **Sarvajeet Diwas** (Annual Sports Day of Neev Academy) is a practice followed at school. This is an Annual Sporting event for the students, attended by their families.

5. Once a week, MYP students are given reading time of thirty minutes, which is utilised for reading texts written in English and other languages. These may be works of fiction or academic texts written in the different languages that the school offers.

6. PYP follows a Read Aloud program for 15 minutes daily, which involves the teacher reading aloud to the students. The choice of book/language rests with the teacher. Students also bring books from home in language of their choice, to be read by the teacher.

7. PYP also practices Uninterrupted Sustained Silent Reading for 20 minutes everyday, where books of any language available in the library or brought from home are read by the students.

8. To ensure that the students access a wide range of reading, through this activity, a follow up student-teacher conference is conducted once a week with every student. Through this conference the teacher is able to observe reading patterns amongst the students and offer intervention wherever required. As part of this routine the students also maintain a reading log listing their reading.

The language support is provided to students through the following ways :

- Differentiated learning through customizing the difficulty level of content, providing customized worksheets and extended time for completion of assignments.
- Peer learning - Students are divided in mixed groups where they support each other to ensure better proficiency across the fundamental language skills via co-construction.

Language Support Material available in School library :

The school subscribes to a number of non academic publications in various languages, to create more opportunities for multi-lingualism. The following list is a sample of it but not exhaustive in itself:

- Hindi Magazine – Aha Zindagi, Navbharat times, Rajasthan Patrika
- Short Stories, Novels in Hindi, French, Kannada, German and Spanish
- Dictionaries - Hindi, French, German and Spanish

PARENTAL AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Parents are an intrinsic part of NEEV's community of learners and they provide crucial support for language learning. Parents also volunteer in classrooms and throughout the school, helping provide support for mother-tongue support learners and students with learning support needs. Neev Language Day is a parent led event.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In Neev, we believe that all teachers are language teachers, and that subject teachers are responsible for teaching domain specific vocabulary and language skills. To accomplish this, the school has the following activities:

- Teacher training on text forms for all teachers
- Teacher training on reading and writing strategies
- Subject teachers collaborate with language teachers to integrate language learning into their lessons.

COMMUNICATION OF THE POLICY

The NEEV Language Policy is available to the NEEV community through multiple pathways including NEEV's public website and NEEV's internal shared drive. New staff will be familiarized with the document during the orientation programme. The printed copies of the policy are available for the Admissions Department and for reference in each school section.

LANGUAGE POLICY REVIEW PROCESS

The Language Policy is reviewed by a team of teachers, once annually and submitted as a draft, for approval.

Policy review done in the month of	July 2019
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