Literacy and Numeracy

Education Queensland offers these definitions of literacy and numeracy to parents and carers:

Literacy is the ability to read, view, write, design, speak and listen in a way that allows us to communicate effectively and to make sense of the world. Literacy allows us to make sense of a range of written, visual and spoken texts including books, newspapers, magazines, timetables, DVDs, television and radio programs, signs, maps, conversations and instructions.

To be numerate is to confidently and effectively use mathematics to meet the everyday demands of life. Numeracy enables you to develop logical thinking and reasoning strategies in your daily life. We need numeracy to solve problems and make sense of time, numbers, patterns and shapes for activities like cooking, reading a map or bill, reading instructions and even playing sport.

At Deception Bay, we have drawn from the Education Queensland definitions of literacy and numeracy to develop a shared understanding of Literacy and Numeracy:

Literacy is … the language skills and knowledge that allow students to operate effectively within their preferred and essential learning contexts

Numeracy is … the language of numbers and the utilisation of number facts and problems that allow students to make sense of things within their preferred and essential learning contexts

We recognise students will have a range of preferred subjects and learning styles that provide a more relevant and inspiring lens for the learning of literacy and numeracy. Therefore embedding literacy and numeracy across the curriculum, alongside strategies of explicit intervention and teaching is a key priority.

Explicit Intervention Strategy

In year 8 students exempt from LOTE will be timetabled for two Literacy lessons a week. In term 4 as our preparation for NAPLAN becomes imperative, students will pick up additional lessons through LEAP and P4 Thursday with the wind up of interschool sport.

In year 9 Literacy and Numeracy will be timetabled for one lesson a week.

As part of our whole school literacy & numeracy strategy every subject area will be expected to complete 20 minutes of reading & comprehension once a week.