SEAFORD LANGUAGE UNIT

Seaford Primary School is a friendly, caring school that values community and aims to achieve excellence, nurture individuality and to understand and challenge every child.

School Values: Honesty, Respect, Responsibility, Acceptance

Seaford Language Unit (LU) is a Special Assistance resource unit at Seaford Primary School. It provides intensive programs for students with a Language Disorder. The LU has successfully supported a large number of students over many years. To be a part of the program, students are required to have been assessed by a speech pathologist and guidance officer and deemed to have a Language Disorder.

The LU provides approximately ten hours per week of intensive language and literacy instruction via a team of highly trained educational specialists – Speech Pathologist, Highly Experienced Teacher, Psychologist, and Special Trained Teacher Assistants. While attending the LU, the students are enrolled at Seaford Primary School and participate fully in all other curriculum areas. Several LU students have held leadership roles within the school.

Features of the Program include:
- Explicit individual instruction (including modelling, support & guidance)
- Literacy development with special attention to specific skills and strategies
- Specialised attention to enhancing speech and language skills
- Extended practice in application of strategies learned
- Modification of classroom tasks
- Development of self esteem
- Development of social communication skills
- On going parental consultation, liaison, support and feedback

For further information regarding placement of eligible students, please contact the LU, or arrange a visit for prospective parents and interested teachers.

Michael Browne (Principal) 9786 1357
Robyn Reardon (Officer In Charge) 9786 1357
Julia Murphy (LU Speech Pathologist) 9786 1357
Andrew Sinclair (Volunteer Psychologist) 9786 1357
LANGUAGE UNIT ENTRY CRITERIA

- The student is formally enrolled in a primary school within the South Eastern Victoria Region
- Interventions have been in place and concerns about progress remain after evaluation by the local primary school.
- Assessments have been made by the psychologist and speech pathologist managing the case.
- These workers form the view that criteria for mixed expressive-receptive language disorder, receptive language disorder, or expressive language disorder are satisfied.
- Formal referral is made by them to the Seaford Primary School Language Unit.
- Reports are provided by these workers, and allied professionals that document evidence of language disorder.
- No other conditions are present such as Disruptive Behaviour Disorder, Selective Mutism or Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- There is a statistically significant difference between the Verbal and Performance Sub-Scales of the WPPSI-III or the WISC 4 with a low base rate (10% or less) and a Verbal Sub-Scale score that is less than 70.
- There are significant communication deficits in everyday life- in school, in home, in the community. There is also evidence of normal development in areas other than language and communication. This is established by Adaptive Behaviour Assessment by the referring psychologist.
- Expressive and/or Receptive Language measures fall two standard deviations below the mean. There is evidence that language development is not only delayed but also deviant. This is established by the referring speech pathologist.
- Active parental support for the placement. This refers to transport to the unit, ensuring 100% attendance at the unit unless for illness, assisting with home practice assignments, attending review meetings at the unit and collaborative decision making concerning programming and exit.
- The student is enrolled as full-time student whilst accessing the services of the unit.

LANGUAGE UNIT EXIT CRITERIA

- Interventions have been evaluated as successful.
- Reappraisal upon receipt of new information indicates that the Language Disorder criteria are no longer satisfied or that other conditions are present.
- The student relocates within Victoria or moves interstate.