## Why Study Japanese?

Asian languages have an important place in the curriculum because of Australia's location in the Asia-Pacific region.

For Queenslanders, the study of Japanese is especially important given the strong cultural, economic and political ties with Japan.

Because of the tourism and commercial links between Australia and Japan, Queensland students have many opportunities to meet Japanese-speaking people in the school context and in the general community.

Japanese offers an opportunity for learners to study a unique language that uses a variety of character-based scripts. The Japanese language deeply reflects the complexity and cultural heritage of Japanese society.

As Queensland students increasingly take the opportunity to travel to Japan, knowledge of Japanese is an advantage.



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## Year 7 Japanese



# Why Learn a Language Other Than English?

Young people need an education that equips them to participate in and engage with an increasingly globalised world. Learning languages provides many benefits for students, including:

- Proficiency in a language other than English
- An understanding of different cultures and societies
- Analytical and communication skills that enhance their learning in other areas of the curriculum
- Improved literacy skills through a better understanding of grammar and sentence construction

Learning a language other than English enables a person to communicate across cultures, promotes socio-cultural understanding and improves academic competence.

Through the study of a language other than English, students develop a sense of cultural identity, self-concept and learn to negotiate and express meaning in a variety of cultural contexts.



## **Course Overview**

Students who have studied Japanese in primary school can continue their language studies in Year 7. Students are encouraged to speak, listen to, read and write Japanese in a range of interactions with the teacher and one another.

In Year 7, students will study the P-10 Australian Curriculum: Japanese for two semesters.

#### Semester 1:

#### Unit 1: How do I Express my Self-Identity?

Students explore the concept of self-identity, influences on self-identity and ways in which self-identity is expressed.

#### **Unit 2: What are Memorable Places?**

Students use language to explore memorable places around Japan.

#### Semester 2:

#### **Unit 3: What are Oral Traditions?**

Students explore the concept of identity and traditions through the analysis of imaginative texts of cultural significance passed down through generations over time.

#### **Unit 4: What is Community?**

Students explore the concept of community and the way group identity is expressed across cultures.

## **Assessment Summary**

Assessment is continuous throughout the year and will include:

#### Unit 1: How do I Express my Self-Identity?

 Collection of Work: Writing; Speaking; Reflecting

#### Unit 2: What are Memorable Places?

Collection of Work: Reading; Writing

#### **Unit 3: What are Oral Traditions?**

Collection of Work: Writing

#### **Unit 4: What is Community?**

Collection of Work: Writing; Reflecting

### **Homework**

Homework will be given at least once a week and students will be expected to apply themselves consistently.

Homework involves reviewing Hiragana, Katakana and Kanji symbols, and keywords (vocabulary).

