



# Robertson State School

*Creating Brighter Futures Together*

Principal: Mrs Margaret Berry

Deputy Principal: Mr Kerin Gordon

Deputy Principal: Ms Shae Robinson

4 August 2023

## BILINGUAL INFORMATION SESSION - INVITE FOR YEAR 1 2024

Dear Prep Parents and Carers

We'd like to invite our 2023 Prep parents to an information session and tour of our flagship Bilingual Program on Friday 11 August at 9am in our Music room (under the hall). This information session will answer questions around benefits of Bilingualism, Content Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) pedagogy, the learning pathway for your child at Robertson and most importantly, the advantages that your child will enjoy as a student in the program at Robertson State School. During this session, we hope to announce the teachers of the 2024 Year 1 bilingual classes.

Robertson State School's award winning Chinese Bilingual Program has promoted successful achievement and engagement for students in all learning areas of the Australian Curriculum through practices based on proven cognitive development methodologies. The program was derived from acknowledged research and promotes advanced brain development. The outcome is students with improved cognitive ability, greater verbal working memory and superior problem-solving skills. It also promotes the development of lateral, out-of-the-box thinking.

Australian Curriculum delivery in the Bilingual Program is guided by an innovative approach known as Content Language Integrated Learning (CLIL), focusing on mathematics, science and technology curriculum being integrated within the Chinese language. The subjects of English, History and Geography are taught in English. The school has developed a number of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about the Bilingual Program including CLIL. These can be found on the school website and give details of how the program will run, under the Curriculum/Subjects and Programs/Language and International Programs section.

Research has shown that bilingual people have enriched cognitive control and are more likely to have better memory, visual-spatial skills and creativity. The explicit improvement agenda of fostering expert teaching teams and high yield bilingual pedagogical practices has led to engaged, independent, resilient students who are successful learners. **The primary goal of the bilingual program at Robertson State School is to develop accelerated learning and improved cognitive ability in our students, rather than just language acquisition.**

In 2024, we will be continuing the Bilingual Program across the school in Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 depending on student numbers. This program has been regarded as a positive learning experience for all of our students and they have engaged enthusiastically in the program. We look forward to seeing our prep parents at this session. If you cannot attend and would like to know more, please email Deputy Principal Kerin Gordon on [kgord28@eq.edu.au](mailto:kgord28@eq.edu.au).

Session 1 – Friday 11 August 9.00am – 10.00am in the Music Room. Applications for Entry (AFE) into the Bilingual Program for Year 1 in 2024 open on August 11 for current Prep students.

Mr Kerin Gordon  
*Deputy Principal*

Ms Margaret Berry  
*Principal*