



AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF LIMBE (AISL)

Language Policy

Policy Number: AISL-ACA-003

Category: Teaching and Learning

Approved By: Board of Directors

Effective Date: August 2026

Review Cycle: Every Two Years

"At the American International School of Limbe, we believe that every language opens a door to new cultures, new perspectives, and new opportunities. We are committed to developing multilingual, internationally minded learners who communicate confidently, think critically, and act compassionately in an interconnected world."

1. Purpose

This policy establishes how AISL supports language learning in alignment with the American Common Core, the International Baccalaureate philosophy, and the school's mission.

2. Philosophy

Every teacher is a language teacher. Language development underpins all learning, and every student has the right to develop proficiency in English while maintaining and valuing their home language(s).

3. Guiding Principles

Language learning is inclusive, inquiry-based, culturally responsive, differentiated, and promotes multilingualism, communication, and intercultural understanding.

4. AISL Language Profile

English

English is the primary language of instruction, assessment, reporting and school communication. Students progressively develop proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, writing, viewing and presenting.

French

Recognizing Cameroon as a bilingual nation, French is the compulsory second language for all students from the Early Years through High School. Instruction develops communication, literacy, cultural understanding and appreciation of Francophone cultures.

Home Languages

AISL values students' home languages and encourages families to promote literacy, conversation and cultural experiences in the first language.

Future World Languages

As AISL grows, the school intends to introduce additional world languages, beginning with Spanish and/or Mandarin Chinese, based on student interest, staffing and programme development.

5. Language of Instruction

English is the language of teaching and learning. Appropriate language scaffolds are provided for multilingual learners.

6. Mother Tongue Development

Maintaining the first language strengthens identity, cognitive development and additional language acquisition. Families are encouraged to support literacy at home.

7. English Language Learners (ELL)

All applicants whose first language is not English complete an English language screening. Students receive targeted English Language Development through differentiated instruction, small-group support, vocabulary development, reading and writing intervention, speaking and listening practice, progress monitoring and ongoing communication with families. Exit decisions are

based on multiple measures of readiness.

8. Additional Language Learning

French is the compulsory second language for all students. AISL aims to develop functional bilingualism in English and French. As the school expands, additional world languages—beginning with Spanish and/or Mandarin Chinese—will be introduced to strengthen multilingualism, intercultural competence, global citizenship and international readiness.

9. Language Across the Curriculum

All teachers teach academic vocabulary, reading, writing, speaking, listening and subject-specific language.

10. Reading and Literacy

AISL promotes balanced literacy through guided reading, independent reading, writing workshops, phonics, literature circles, research and digital literacy.

11. Assessment of Language

Language development is assessed through classroom evidence, presentations, writing, reading assessments, MAP Growth where applicable and standards-based or IB-aligned assessment.

12. Roles and Responsibilities

Students, teachers, parents and school leaders share responsibility for language development.

13. Family Partnership

Families are encouraged to read daily, maintain home language development and participate in literacy activities.

14. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years or sooner if required.

Appendices

Home Language Survey; English Language Screening; ELL Support Plan; Reading Benchmarks; Language Progress Monitoring Form; Family Literacy Resources.