

The delivery of a Primary French Bilingual Program at Whites Hill State College begun in 2023. In 2024, we welcomed our first cohort of Year 7s, extending the offering into High School. In 2025 Whites Hill State College will be offering the French Bilingual Program pathway in Prep, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 in Primary, as well as Year 7 and Year 8 in Secondary.

The FBP will be progressively expanding every year to offer the program from Prep to Year 6 by 2028 and from Year 7 to Year 9 by 2026.

French Bilingual Program Pathway - Enrolment Capacity 2025						
Prep	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3		Y7	Y8
25	25	25	25		28	28

The enrolment capacity numbers are not negotiable.

**Expressions of interest for entry in the FBP for a new school year are done via the waitlist which is published on the website early February.**

**Order of entry into Prep at Whites Hill State College French Bilingual Program (FBP), from the waiting list:**

All enrolments for Whites Hill SC FBP are considered according to the criteria below.

Eligibility Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students who are French Nationals or French bi-national citizens.</li> <li>• Students from other Francophone families. At least one parent must provide evidence of both Francophone nationality and French language proficiency.</li> <li>• Students who can demonstrate suitability to a bilingual French/English education.</li> </ul>

To identify students who can demonstrate suitability to a bilingual French/English education, the following elements will be considered:

- The student’s linguistic aptitude in French and/or English.
- Parental commitment to Whites Hill State College French/English bilingual program.
- Students who have been schooled in French in accordance with the French curriculum will also be considered in this category.

*While prior French-language schooling is advantageous, it is not a requirement, nor does it guarantee automatic entry into the French Bilingual Program.*

Given that the demand for places is greater than the number of available places, French Nationals, French bi-national citizens and other Francophone families applicants are advised to provide detailed supporting evidence. Accepted evidence is listed below and needs to be one of the following:

- current French passport or Livret de famille
- current francophone country passport

- French language proficiency of the parent claiming francophone status (assessed orally). The French language qualifications of parents - statement of attainment from an accredited French language provider such as Alliance Française.

Please note that originals must be sighted at the time of enrolment. Enrolment paperwork will not be accepted without original supporting evidence.

### **Supporting students in Whites Hill State College French Bilingual Program**

The FBP is academically rigorous with students in Prep – Year 2 only receiving the equivalent of one day of English per week.

It is expected that parents will support students at home by completing homework and supporting their child's literacy acquisition.

In addition, families of students who are not French speakers will need to organise ongoing support of their child's French language acquisition during their time in the French Bilingual Program.

### **Years 1 – 6 - Enrolment into Whites Hill State College French Bilingual Program**

Enrolments will be offered to students who have a proficient level of French, reading, writing and mathematics, commensurate with the year level of enrolment in order of the waiting list.

### **Years 7-9 - Enrolment into Whites Hill State College French Bilingual Program**

Enrolments will be offered to students who have a proficient level of French, reading, writing and mathematics, commensurate with the year level of enrolment in order of the waiting list. A B1 level of French proficiency or prior schooling in a French or French Bilingual Program is recommended for entry.

### **Assessment of French level of students entering Whites Hill State College French Bilingual Program in Years 1 - 8**

A certain level of French proficiency is required for entry into the FBP in years 1 - 8. It will be assessed by the FBP leadership team. This may involve:

- previous school reports
- school based French assessment
- an interview with the student in French and interview with the student's family

The interview will help determine whether the student has an appropriate level of French to succeed in the FBP. The Principal, in consultation with the French Head of Department, will confirm suitability for the student to enter the FBP.

### **Removal from Whites Hill State College French Bilingual Program**

Parents can raise concerns for their child's progress in the FBP with the class teacher, Head of Department, Head of School or the Principal.

Class teachers can raise concerns for a student's progress to Whites Hill State College SET Team. These concerns will be shared with parents. Additional assessments such as a cognitive or Speech Language Assessment may be completed to confirm suitability in the FBP. Results will be shared with the FBP leadership team to confirm suitability in the FBP.

The Principal will consult with parents to make a decision as to whether the child will continue in the FBP.

The Principal may remove a student from the FBP if additional assessments indicate the FBP is not the best placement for the child.