HEAD OF DEPARTMENT:  Mrs Tanya Ballantyne  
SUBJECT COORDINATOR:  Nick Smith

SUBJECT OUTLINE: The primary focus for this course of study is being able to communicate information about one’s self, as well as asking questions of others. Japanese culture and language is taught through the use of the four basic macro skills – listening, writing, reading and speaking. New vocabulary and script are learnt and tested each week, and sentence patterns are introduced and practised in variety of contexts. Students are encouraged to engage in activities with a focus on providing authentic ideas, situations and experiences to best facilitate their language learning. Students will improve their comprehension skills with real conversations in the target language, and develop their composition skills through a variety of reading and writing tasks where students will be exposed to the 3 kana scripts: hiragana, katakana, and kanji. Culture is explored through individual and group research projects and hands-on activities.

At Redlynch State College there is a heavy emphasis on making language learning fun! Using a variety of games, technology, authentic resources, and dynamic activities, LANGUAGES balances a challenging and beneficial course of work with the enjoyment of learning about an amazing country. The units of study covered in year 8 are:

- Who Am I?
- Me and My Family
- Getting to Know Me (Things I like to Do)
- What’s Up? (Leisure and Daily Activities)

CONTRIBUTES TO OP:  N/A

ASSESSMENT OUTLINE: Throughout the course students will be assessed on their listening, writing, reading and speaking abilities. Comprehension (listening, reading) is assessed through in-class tests, while composing (writing, speaking) is measured through project based assessment. Projects are designed to be fun and engaging, and allow students to display their understanding in a creative and unique way.

Term 1:  
Listening – Self-Introductions  
Speaking – Self-Introduction (Prepared Speech)

Term 2:  
Reading – Letter Home  
Writing – Family Information Poster

Term 3:  
Listening – Pen Pal  
Speaking – Summer Camp

Term 4:  
Reading – Takeshi’s Diary  
Writing – Dream Week

CAREER PATHWAYS:  
Hospitality: retail, tour guide, air host, events manager; Teaching: (Australia, JPN), tutor; Business: interpreter, liaison, international relationships, pilot; Government: politician, embassy staff, international programs and coordination, military.

EXTRA CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES:  
- Participate in overseas tours organised by school staff
- Participate in student exchanges – both long and short term
- Hosting visiting students during home stays in Cairns
- Language and essay competitions
- Act as buddies for visiting international students

COSTS: General costs are covered in the Student Resource Scheme.

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS/PREREQUISITES: Learning a language requires enthusiasm, diligence and patience. Students studying Japanese must have a positive attitude and actively participate in classroom
activities and discussions. Homework and independent study outside of school are essential for becoming a successful language learner.