

Literacy Support Programs



At Burrendah Primary literacy is highly valued and students who experience difficulties in literacy are offered extra support to assist them in gaining valuable skills. Students who have English as an Additional Language/Dialect (EALD) are offered additional support from our highly trained and knowledgeable EALD teachers and education assistants. Students falling behind or struggling with the literacy program in the classroom are offered support in programs. We run specific literacy programs to cater for students' specific needs. **Alpha to Omega**, **MULTILIT** and **Letters and Sounds** are all clearly structured, researched programs with unparalleled reputations amongst specialists in the fields of literacy and learning difficulties. Students who are also having difficulty coping with the normal classroom program in literacy and need a more individualised, targeted approach, have the opportunity to work in a smaller group program called **Fun Language** and **Literacy Adventure**.

Alpha to Omega and **Letters and Sounds** are group programs that make use of explicit teaching and follow a linguistic, phonetic approach to the teaching of reading and spelling. **Letters and Sounds** is used in junior classes and support groups. **Alpha to Omega** is used to support groups of students from Years 2 to 6 who have been identified by the classroom teachers as being at risk of falling behind or struggling in literacy. Each year grade is allocated a 30 minute group lesson three times a week during the literacy block.

MULTILIT (Making up for Lost Time in Literacy) is used to assist individual students struggling in reading from Year 1 to Year 6. It has been developed by a team of specialists from Macquarie University in Sydney to encompass explicit instruction in all five key areas: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. Students doing this program have the opportunity to work individually with their tutor three times a week for 20 to 30 minutes with very explicit instruction, reinforced reading and sight words. Students chosen to do this program receive certificates of achievement for each section completed.

The **Fun Language** group is for Years 1 to 3 and the **Literacy Adventure** group is for Years 4 to 6. In these groups we offer additional help to students who are not coping with the normal classroom literacy program. These students have an opportunity to work on basic literacy skills within a small group during the two hour literacy block three times a week. In these groups, students work with an experienced teacher and education assistants on more individualised plans to build confidence and to strive to achieve their potential in all areas of literacy.