



**Superintendent of Schools**

Dr. Jose L. Dotres

**Miami-Dade County School Board**

Mari Tere Rojas, Chair

Monica Colucci, Vice Chair

Roberto J. Alonso

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall

Mary Blanco

Danny Espino

Dr. Steve Gallon III

Joseph S. Geller

Luisa Santos

## **Language Policy**

Coral Reef Senior High School recognizes the central role of language in fostering learning and communication across the curriculum. All teachers, regardless of subject area, serve as language facilitators, supporting students in developing effective communication skills. Language instruction, world language study, and the encouragement of maintaining one's mother tongue are integral to our campus culture. Language is embedded throughout the curriculum to promote cultural awareness, diversity, and sensitivity.

All students are required to study at least one language in addition to their mother tongue. Coral Reef's Foreign Language Department offers Group 2 courses in French, Spanish, and German. Except for entry-level courses, prerequisites ensure proper course sequencing. To qualify for an IB exam, students must complete a minimum of three consecutive years in the same world language, although four years of study is strongly recommended. Recognizing that student needs evolve, Coral Reef's language policy is designed to be flexible and adaptive to changing circumstances.

The IB Diploma Programme is delivered in English (A1). Admission is based on prerequisites, acceptable middle school grade point averages, and a holistic review. Non-native English speakers are welcomed and supported through our English Language Learner (ELL) program, which provides resources and skills necessary to succeed in the IB Programme. Support extends to families, helping students acclimate to learning in a new language while ensuring inclusion and equity. Coral Reef encourages students and families to maintain the mother tongue through continued reading, writing, and speaking at home. Mother tongue support is offered via student groups such as the French and Spanish Honor Societies, and the German, Hispanic Heritage, and Asian Clubs.

Coral Reef benefits from a Memorandum of Understanding with the German Embassy, enabling a German International Studies (IS) program that begins in first grade at Sunset Elementary School and continues through Carver Middle School, culminating in direct articulation into the Coral Reef IB Diploma Programme. Ninth- and tenth-grade students enrolled in this program take a German Humanities course taught entirely in German, in addition to the standard German language classes.

IB German at Coral Reef follows two tracks:

- **SL Track:** Typically for students from an International Education (IE) middle school program. Students progress through German 4, Advanced Placement German, and then IB German SL (two-year sequence). These students take the Duales System Deutschland (DSD) I exams, with a 100% IB SL German passing rate to date.

- **HL Track:** Typically for students from the IS program, spanning Sunset Elementary (grades 1–5) and Carver Middle School (grades 6–8). Students take the DSD II exams, achieving a 100% passing rate, and complete IB German HL/SL exams with a 100% success rate.

The Foreign Language Department aligns with the Vision and Mission of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools' Division of Bilingual Education and World Languages. Its philosophy is to develop students who communicate proficiently in English and another language, interact effectively across cultures, and achieve literacy commensurate with their age, experience, and educational level. The Department's mission is to provide curriculum leadership and instructional support for literacy development in English and other languages, positively impacting student achievement and fostering lifelong learning.

Coral Reef and the Division share core values, including fostering diverse perspectives, promoting multilingualism, ensuring equal access to education, and preparing students for success in a competitive global environment. Interdisciplinary learning is emphasized, with students integrating foreign language study into subjects such as History or Science. For example, IB oral examinations require students to explore topics related to Hispanic culture, history, or literature, including art, ecology, technology, and historical innovation.

Professional development is provided for administrators, teachers, and staff to strengthen language teaching and learning. Educators with Limited English Proficient (LEP) students participate in Multicultural Education Training Advocacy, Inc. (META) programs. The level of training aligns with specific teaching assignments to meet the instructional needs of LEP students effectively.

The Language Policy is reviewed annually (last reviewed August 2025) and is communicated to stakeholders via the IB section of the Coral Reef website.

