At Humpybong State School we believe that learning a Language Other Than English (LOTE) enhances the academic, intercultural and personal development of students. Humpybong students in grades 5, 6 & 7 study the Japanese language and culture for LOTE. Students in grades 6 and 7 engage in 90 minutes of LOTE each week while students in grade 5 engage in 60 minutes. Students build their language skills and understandings in these four key areas:

* Scripted Alphabets ([Hiragana](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hiragana), [Katakana](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Katakana) & [Kanji](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kanji))
* [Numeracy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_numbers)
* [Grammar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_grammar)
* Vocabulary

Through LOTE students at Humpybong also have the opportunity each year to meet and interact with Japanese exchange students from Redcliffe’s Sister City, Sanyo-Onoda. These opportunities include excursions and school-based activities conducted in partnership with [Redcliffe State High Schools](https://redcliffeshs.eq.edu.au/Curriculum/Subjectareas/Pages/Why-choose-Japanese-at-Redcliffe-High.aspx) homestay program.

Of the many resources we use in our LOTE program, ICTs – particularly our bank of 10 iPads, kindly donated by Redcliffe State High School – have proven to enhance student engagement with and retention of Japanese learning. Below is a list of online and app-based resources we have found useful and would recommend to anyone wishing to build their skills and understanding of the Japanese language and culture.

If you have any questions about our Japanese LOTE program please feel free to contact Mr Sam Gilkes (LOTE Teacher) via email [sgilk3@eq.edu.au](mailto:sgilk3@eq.edu.au)

Websites

**Kids Web Japan** - <http://web-japan.org/kidsweb/>

A fun and interactive children’s website operated by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) for the purpose of promoting international interest in and learning about Japanese culture, history, geography, sport and language.

**Digital Dialects** - <http://www.digitaldialects.com/Japanese.htm>

Free online game-based Japanese language resources. Learn and practice Hiragana, Katakana, basic Kanji (Chinese characters) and basic vocabulary (nouns & verbs). Also includes a free animated audio book that teaches about the Edo Period (1603-1867). Read and listen in English, Romanji, Hiragana and Kanji.

**Japan-Guide.com** - <http://www.japan-guide.com/>

This site provides up-to-date seasonal, cultural and social information on all of Japan’s nine regions.

Mobile devices

**Japanese-hiragana** (Free)

Learn all 46 basic Hiragana characters. Includes stroke order, pronunciation and practice games.

Apple IOS: <https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/japanese-hiragana/id492215819?mt=8>

Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=air.hiragana>

**Japanese-katakana** (Free)

Learn all 46 basic Katakana characters. Includes stroke order, pronunciation and practice games.

Apple IOS: <https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/japanese-katakana/id492199540?mt=8>

Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=air.katakana>

**Hiragana Pixel Party** (Free)

Learn to read and write both Hiragana and Katakana by tapping in time to a catchy chip-tune soundtrack.

Apple IOS: <https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/hiragana-pixel-party/id517578891?mt=8>

**Hiragana Cards** (Free)

Simple flash-card-style app that teaches stroke order and pronunciation for both Hiragana and Katakana.

Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.solnus.android.Hiragana>

**Hiragana Tiles** ($1.29)

Excellent Hiragana memorisation app. Uses simple matching and quiz-style games to enhance your Hiragana skills.

Apple IOS: <https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/hiragana-tiles/id435099130?mt=8>

**Aedict Japanese Dictionary** (Free)

Very comprehensive Japanese-English dictionary. Includes Kanji and vocabulary study resources.

Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=sk.baka.aedict>

**Google Translate** (Free)

This is a useful app for translating words and phrases between English and Japanese. It also supports multiple input methods (keyboard, handwriting & speech). Android version offers downloadable dictionary files for offline use and also enables camera input (requires internet connection)

Apple IOS: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/google-translate/id414706506?mt=8&v0=WWW-NAUS-ITSTOP100-FREEAPPS&ign-mpt=uo%3D4> (requires internet connection)

Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.translate>

**Midori (Japanese Dictionary)** ($12.99)

Comprehensive English-Japanese dictionary that includes study resources for Kanji and vocabulary based on Japanese school year levels and the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) levels.

Apple IOS: <https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/midori-japanese-dictionary/id385231773?mt=8>