

**Program of teaching Polish as a foreign language.**  
**The Polish School of Sydney, Randwick**  
**- Levels 1 and 2 – classes for adult learners**

The Polish school of Sydney conducts Polish language classes for adults at various levels. Students can start studying Polish from the very beginning or at the level corresponding to their actual knowledge of the language.

At each level a course consists of two terms of instruction; there are 16 to 18 two-hourly sessions, depending on the length of the term. Since our school is primarily a Polish Saturday school for children, we follow the term structure of NSW government schools.

At our school Polish is taught using a variety of teaching methods. Every group is different, therefore teachers adapt their methods to individual needs of students. Particular emphasis, however, is put on the **communicative method** of teaching the language, which develops spontaneous and effective spoken communication skills. Grammar is taught only when necessary, without introducing terms or notions which would be of no use in acquiring practical skills. Effective communication in Polish, appropriate to the situation, is the main objective.

At each level familiarising students with spoken Polish through listening comprehension, learning vocabulary, expressions and structures used in everyday life and reinforcing them through application in natural situations.

The classes are conducted in small groups; it is easier to gain language proficiency in such a group and every student can actively participate in class activities.

Topics and grammatical material to be covered in Level 1 and 2 classes are as follows:

## Level 1

TOPIC/LANGUAGE FUNCTION	GRAMMAR
Greetings and farewells - expressions used when starting and finishing conversation Introducing oneself and talking about oneself Occupations Countries and nationalities Objects and their attributes Colours Hobbies and favourite activities Routine everyday actions Meals, names of dishes Family, relatives Shopping for food: names of products, enquiring about the price The weather – natural phenomena The clock and telling the time People's appearance – physical characteristics Items of clothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the Polish alphabet</li><li>• principles of Polish pronunciation</li><li>• conjugation of selected regular and irregular verbs in the present tense</li><li>• cardinal and ordinal numerals from 1 to 20</li><li>• adverbs of frequency</li><li>• personal and possessive pronouns in the nominative case</li><li>• declension of nouns and adjectives in the instrumental, accusative and genitive cases</li><li>• basic grammatical structures necessary for everyday communication</li></ul>

After finishing a course at Level 1, a student is able to understand and use simple sentences and expressions, commonly occurring in Polish. He can introduce himself or another person and ask questions about someone's acquaintances, possessions, etc. After completing Level 1 a student can also answer questions of the same nature. He is able to understand questions about the weather, appearance of a person or qualities of an object as well as provide basic information about them.

## Level 2

TOPIC/LANGUAGE FUNCTION	GRAMMAR
<p>The calendar – days of the week, months, seasons</p> <p>Planning one's time – daily and weekly plan</p> <p>Leisure activities</p> <p>Plans for the future</p> <p>A birthday party – composing an invitation, accepting or refusing an invitation</p> <p>Greetings</p> <p>Moving around the city, describing the route</p> <p>Travelling – means of transport</p> <p>Shopping – comparing prices, quality, quantity, etc.</p> <p>Reminiscing (eg. remembering one's childhood, customs from the past)</p> <p>People – moods, mental states, physical condition</p> <p>Telephone conversation</p> <p>At a restaurant, the menu, ordering food</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• revision of grammatical material learnt in Level 1</li><li>• systemising present tense conjugations – regular and irregular verbs</li><li>• past tense forms of verbs</li><li>• perfective and imperfective verbs</li><li>• the future tense</li><li>• dative and locative cases of nouns</li><li>• accusative and genitive cases of personal pronouns</li><li>• degrees of adjectives and adverbs</li><li>• cardinal and ordinal numerals from 20 to 100</li></ul>

After finishing a Level 2 course, a student can manage in various everyday situations, eg. ask for directions and for the time, express an invitation and greetings, conduct a short telephone conversation. He can talk about an event, personal experience or a dream. He can communicate with others in a simple way, if others speak slowly and are willing to cooperate.