

SCIENCE

POLICY

Rationale:

- Science education contributes to developing scientifically and technologically literate citizens who will be able to make informed decisions about their lifestyle, their environment and the kind of society in which they wish to live. They will be able to see the connections between science and people, note the relevance of science and technology to past achievements and current and future development and be aware of the impact of science and technology on society, the individual and the environment.

Aims:

Through learning Science students will develop: -

- an interest in science, expanding their curiosity and willingness to explore, ask questions about and speculate on the changing world in which they live
- an understanding of the vision that science provides of the nature of living things, the nature of scientific inquiry and the ability to use a range of scientific inquiry methods, an ability to communicate scientific understanding and findings to a range of audiences, to justify ideas on the basis of evidence, and to evaluate and debate scientific arguments and claims
- an ability to understand and solve problems and make informed, evidence-based decisions about historical, cultural, contemporary and future applications of science, as well as an understanding of the diversity of careers related to science
- a solid foundation of knowledge of the biological, chemical, physical, Earth and space sciences.

Implementation:

- Science is an essential learning area of the Australian Curriculum.
- All Prep to Year 6 students at our school will study sequential Science courses based upon the content descriptions contained within the Australian Curriculum Science learning area.
- All teachers are required to work with their respective professional learning teams, sections and faculties to contribute to the development and implementation of a viable, guaranteed and sequential Science course for all students and to implement student needs based lessons using agreed planning templates, assessment tools and lesson structures.
- The school will appoint a Science coordinator who will coordinate the development and implementation of Science across our school.
- Student's individual abilities will be measured and reported against the expected Australian Curriculum achievement standards, particularly at the commencement of each unit of work, and learning opportunities must be provided that cater for the identified needs of each student.
- Student progress in Science will be reported in half and end of year academic reports.
- Science study for each student will be not less than 2 hours per week.
- A budget that provides for the needs of the Science program will be developed by the Science coordinator in consultation with Science staff members and resourced by school council.
- Science activities that reflect the topics being studied at school, and are appropriate to each child's ability, will be regular features of each student's homework regime.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council on....

March 2015