

# Science

## POLICY

**Responsibility:** James Sait & Jeff Millard

**Rationale:**

- Implementation of the Australian Curriculum in Science across the school will provide all students with a sequential curriculum framework that guides their learning, as well providing measures of learning achievement that allow students, teachers and parents the opportunity to assess student performance against expected achievement standards in Science.

**Aims:**

- To optimise student learning through the implementation of the Australian Curriculum in Science across each learning area from Foundation to Year 6 in a manner consistent with departmental requirements and locally identified needs.
- To integrate student learning in Science around the three interrelated strands: Science Understanding, Science as a Human Endeavour and Science Inquiry Skills.
- Together, the three stands of the science curriculum provide students with understanding, knowledge and skills through which they can develop a scientific view of the world. Students are challenged to explore science, it's concepts, nature and uses through clearly described inquiry processes.
- To create in students a curious mind and love of discovery.

**Implementation:**

- Our school is committed to the successful implementation of each of the Australian Curriculum learning areas from Foundation to Year 6.
- Whole school professional development opportunities will be provided, as well as personal professional development plans developed that cater for the Australian Curriculum understanding and implementation needs of each staff member.
- All teachers are required to work together to contribute to the development and implementation of guaranteed and viable Australian Curriculum based courses for all students, and to implement student needs based lessons using whole school agreed planning templates, assessment tools and lesson structures.
- Student achievement will be measured and reported to students, parents, Department of Education and the wider community against the Australian Curriculum achievement standards, in each of the science learning areas.
- All staff will participate in the collection of student achievement data, and all staff will have input into school decisions resulting from interpretations of student achievement data.
- School staff will investigate and develop a teaching framework that encourages science teaching through a practical approach. Placing emphasis on exploring student curiosity through practical means where possible.
- The teaching and learning of Environmental Science will be considered a priority. The Environmental Science program will make use of our school locality, natural environment and facilities as a means for science delivery.

- School council and allocated budgets will provide adequate resources for the implementation of the Australian Curriculum and associated professional development etc.

### **Method:**

- Science is taught in a whole-school (P-6) model where students work independently, in pairs, small groups and whole-class groups.
- Teachers work together to plan and provide quality Science teaching and learning.
- Instruction will be through discovery based activities.
- Opportunities will be provided for students to plan and lead science activities for their peers.

### **Timetable:**

- 2 hours per week.
  - 2 x 30min
  - 1 x 60min

### **Programs & Supplements to Learning:**

- River Detectives Program
- Vegetable Gardens & Greenhouse Program

### **Assessment:**

We follow the schools assessment schedule that we revise each year. In addition to this, Science assessments will be based on, observation, anecdotal notes, work samples, student self-reflection etc.

### **Planning:**

Staff will create an annual Science Plan in alignment with AusVels, the schools' Strategic Plan and Annual Implementation Plan. The plan will place emphasis on Environmental Science and planning for teaching that encourages student curiosity.

Staff will plan together and across the network with teachers in like schools, teaching like grades where possible.

### **Professional Development:**

Staff are to attend any professional develop available in the network, including meetings.

### **Budget:**

A budget is allocated to Science each year, which is managed by staff in alignment with the schools' Strategic Plan, Annual Implementation Plan and Annual Science Plan.

**This policy is to be implemented in conjunction with the Science Scope and Sequence AusVels documentation.**

### **Evaluation:**

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

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

June 2015