

CURRICULUM POLICY

MEADOWS PRIMARY 2021



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Meadows Primary School 03 9309 2573.

RATIONALE

Curriculum covers all the arrangements the school makes for student development and learning. It includes the course content, student activities, teaching approaches, the way in which teachers and classes are organised and decisions on the need for and the use of facilities and resources. Meadows Primary School encourages its students to strive for excellence in all their endeavours. To achieve this, the school provides sequential teaching and learning programs that deliver a comprehensive, explicitly taught, and culturally inclusive curriculum.

PURPOSE

This policy is written to support the ongoing development and revision of curriculum

documentation and content at Meadows Primary School, and to ensure that Meadows Primary School provides a curriculum and learning environment that encourages students to strive for excellence in all their learning endeavours. Meadows Primary School will develop and communicate the school's sequential teaching and learning programs to ensure it delivers a comprehensive, broadly based and culturally inclusive curricula. Each year the school will map out its curriculum offerings in a curriculum plan.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure:

- a safe and secure learning and teaching environment is provided to the learning community,
- students and staff maintain delivery of learning and teaching programs consistent with the Victorian Curriculum F – 10,
- students are supported in the acquisition of a solid foundation in knowledge, understanding, skills and values,
- students develop capabilities that underpin flexible and analytical thinking, a capacity to work with others, an ability to create new ideas and an ability to translate skills and concepts into practical applications,
- staff are supported in the delivery of a consistent, guaranteed, and viable curriculum via agreed whole-school approaches and practices,

- staff are supported in exploring and implementing contemporary evidence-based innovative learning and teaching approaches.

AIMS

- Our school will recognise and respond to diverse student needs when developing its curriculum programs and curriculum plan.
- Our school will comply with all DET guidelines about the length of student instruction time required in Victorian schools.
- There will be a broad offering of programs to meet the demands of students.
- School curriculum programs are designed to enhance effective learning.
- Our school will guide its students in preparation for their transition from primary school into secondary education.
- Teaching and learning programs will be resourced through Program Budgets.

OUR PROGRAMS

Meadows Primary School will provide a variety of programs that will address the specific needs of students in relation to gender, special learning needs, disabilities and impairments, giftedness, and students from language backgrounds other than English.

Our school will identify and cater for the different needs of cohorts of students when developing its curriculum plan:

Our school, when developing its Curriculum Plan, will provide at least 25 hours student instruction per week.

- STEM, PE, Visual Arts, and Performing Arts will all be taught as specialist subjects.
- Personal and Interpersonal Learning will be explicitly taught throughout each week and embedded within the academic and specialist curriculum as a 'through line' to all learning. (e.g. – Social & Emotional Learning (SEL) - Respectful Relationships, School Wide Positive Behaviour Support).
- The Victorian Curriculum F – 10 will be used as a framework for curriculum development.
- To facilitate this implementation, unit documentation and assessment criteria will be produced that reflect the Victorian Curriculum F – 10.
- Meadows Primary School will embed student wellbeing in all learning experiences by aligning student welfare and curriculum policies and creating an educational environment
- and curriculum that is inclusive and meaningful to all students, including the Berry Street Education Model, the Respectful Relationships Program, and the School Wide Positive Behaviour Support Framework model.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

- The DET and Meadows Primary School are committed to delivering an inclusive education system that ensures all students, including students with disabilities, have access to a quality education that meets their diverse needs. Meadows Primary School will liaise with DET to provide suitable programs and resources to support the delivery of high-quality schooling for students with disabilities.

KOORIE EDUCATION

Meadows Primary School is committed to providing culturally appropriate and inclusive programs to Koorie students (where applicable) through:

- Working in partnership with the Koorie community to develop an understanding of Koorie culture and the interpersonal relationship with the Koorie community, for example via Local Aboriginal Education Consultative Groups (LAECG),
- Supporting the development of high expectations and individualised learning for Koorie students,
- Creating an environment that respects, recognises, and celebrates cultural identity through practice and curriculum,
- Implementing initiatives and programs that meet student needs and in partnership with the Koorie community.

ACTION GUIDELINES

- The Victorian Curriculum will be implemented from Foundation to Year 6 at Meadows Primary School.
- Meadows Primary School shall comply with all DET guidelines in regard to, the length of student instruction time in Victorian schools and provides at least 25 hours of face-to-face student instruction per week.
- The curriculum shall be collaboratively planned, assessed, and reflected upon by all teachers, inclusive of specialist teachers.
- Every child's academic progress shall be closely monitored, and teachers should implement best practices, using a variety of evidence based instructional and curriculum techniques to ensure that learning is targeted and that children are engaged with their learning.
- To guarantee curriculum consistency at Meadows Primary School, all teachers are required to follow the agreed directions of the Professional Learning Community.
- Meadows Primary School shall provide a differentiated curriculum that recognises and responds to a diversity of learning capabilities, student needs, additional needs, and students from language backgrounds in addition to English. Educational Support staff complete our teaching team.
- Meadows Primary School will document, through its School Strategic Plan and the Annual Implementation Plan, the key strategies for improvement in student learning outcomes as part of our curriculum plan.

- Parents/carers will be provided with curriculum information via termly year level Curriculum Newsletters, the School website, Class Dojo and on school notice boards. Also, the School community is kept fully informed of their child's progress with face-to-face or digital meetings (where necessary), digital communication and twice-yearly written reports.

PROGRAM EVALUATION & REVIEW

The School Improvement Team will meet regularly to track whole school data and identify potential curriculum areas that require focus. Data analysed will include, but is not limited to, NAPLAN, Essential Assessment Literacy and Numeracy data, school-based testing, teacher judgments based on learning outcomes in the Victorian Curriculum F - 10.

Each year the school will audit and evaluate the curriculum to ensure curriculum domains, dimensions, and standards of the Victorian Curriculum F – 10 meet minimum requirements and are updated to reflect current school initiatives. This audit will inform future curriculum planning.

Student learning outcomes data will be reported in the Annual Report to the School Community provided to the DET, and available on the State Register maintained by the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority.

REFERENCES:

Department of Education and Training (DET) <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/sitemap.aspx>

Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA)

<http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/index.aspx>

Australian Curriculum and Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA)

<https://www.acara.edu.au>

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	October 2021
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	September 2024