

MATHEMATICS

POLICY

Definition: To be numerate is to use mathematical ideas effectively to participate in daily life and make sense of the world. It incorporates the use of numerical, spatial, graphical, statistical and algebraic concepts and skills in a variety of contexts and involves the critical evaluation, interpretation, application and communication of mathematical information in a range of practical situations.

Rationale: Mathematics is a key learning area that is vital and is evident in all daily activities. It provides a means to solve real problems in many different everyday activities.

Aims:

For students to:

- Demonstrate useful mathematical and numeracy skills for successful functioning in society.
- See mathematical connections and be able to apply mathematical concepts, skills and processes in posing and solving mathematical problems.
- Work mathematically by applying mathematical skills to everyday situations.
- Solve practical problems with mathematics and work towards learning the skills needed for industry and work based problems.
- Be confident in one's personal knowledge of mathematics.

Implementation:

- One hour per day is to be devoted to the teaching of mathematics throughout the school. Mathematical concepts should however be integrated throughout the day when possible.
- It is important that teachers cater for students at their point of need so the class program will provide teaching and learning experiences at the appropriate VELS/AusVELS level, below the VELS/AusVELS level and above the VELS/AusVELS level.
- Programs will be sequential, developmental and differentiated to the needs of individual children.
- Teachers will take into consideration the different learning styles, and interests of all students, in order to cater for their learning needs.
- Planning of Mathematics programs will be the responsibility of the classroom teacher, along with the year level coordinator.
- Private intervention tutoring during school time will be offered to students falling below the expected level.
- Parent participation in classrooms will be encouraged. All parent helpers should attend the 'Parents Learning About School' course offered in Term One each year.
- Staff will be encouraged to attend external professional learning activities and present newly acquired resources/ideas to staff. Teachers are also encouraged to visit peer classrooms, other schools, attend Early Years Network PD and to participate in small school local activities.
- Education Support staff will have the opportunity for professional learning in Mathematics.
- Teachers will have a written learning intention for each session, which will be clearly articulated to the students, to support their understanding of the purpose of their learning. Students will articulate their new learning during share time.
- Teachers are to follow the Nelson mathematics program at each level with enrichment activities as needed.
- Teachers are to use the Nelson assessment tasks and the DMT tests to develop meaningful programs for all students.
- Teachers will ensure that all children have access to a balanced mathematical program by planning and consulting in units.

- Consolidation and practice of fundamental skills and routines daily (eg number facts, times tables, calendar activities, temperature, time).
- Appropriate practical work on reasoning and strategies, including the application of mathematics in everyday real life experiences.
- The use of 'concrete' materials in all year levels wherever possible. A base supply of resources must be kept in each room.
- Encourage students to take risks with the use of open-ended tasks.
- Embed the language of NAPLAN into the Numeracy program.
- Use multi- media to enhance the use of Mathematics with interactive math's program.
- Teacher development and assistance will be available in the form of relevant curriculum materials, shared planning and decision making practices and professional development.

Evaluation: This policy will be reviewed as part of the School Council three year cycle unless DEECD policy changes.

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

APRIL 2013