

TEACHING AND LEARNING

POLICY

Rationale:

- Student learning is greatly affected by the quality of teaching that they experience. Teachers therefore must ensure that their teaching skills, knowledge and commitment are of the highest standard.

Aims:

- To be the best teachers that we can be and to work hard at providing the best learning experiences possible for our students.

Implementation:

- Teachers at our school acknowledge that students deserve the very best teaching possible, and recognise the strong link between the quality of teaching and student performance.
- As a consequence, we have undertaken a commitment to provide for the individual needs of each and every student to the best of our ability.
- We do not accept that students be provided with generic whole class lessons that do not allow for, or are not focussed upon, individual difference or need.
- Learning experiences will be challenging, engaging, and involve practical 'hands-on' activities and first-hand encounters where ever practicable.
- Individual learning plans will be developed, where necessary, with each student and their parents identifying targets and achievement goals that reflect the curriculum and each child's individual needs.
- Parents will be kept well informed of their child's progress, will be invited to be active participants in their child's learning, and will be provided with ongoing opportunities to improve their own teaching skills.
- Prior to each unit of work, students will be assessed against relevant curriculum learning outcomes with subsequent learning experiences reflecting each student's needs.
- Student achievement data will form the basis of each child's learning. Both extension and intervention opportunities will be provided for all students according to need.
- Learning opportunities will be open-ended, cater for the multiple intelligences of all students, will develop thinking skills, and will be based upon cooperative 'whole child' learning strategies.
- Sequential and viable courses of study in all key-learning areas will be developed and implemented by teams of teachers who constantly review and analyse content, resources and teaching techniques.
- Partnerships will be formed with agencies, organisations and members of the wider community where appropriate to broaden teaching and learning opportunities for students.
- Teachers will become skilled practitioners in the use of learning technologies, and will routinely encourage the use of technologies to enhance learning opportunities.
- All teachers will undertake to enhance their skills by active involvement in personal professional development programs.
- All teachers will be asked to reflect on their professional growth as part of the Performance Review process.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed annually by staff and the Curriculum Committee as part of the school's review cycle.

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

APRIL 13