

Policy Number	Ratification Date	Reviewed	Review Date
18	Aug 2017	2017	2018



CURRICULUM POLICY

Rationale

At Elsternwick Primary School, we recognise that positive relationships are foundational for learning. Our purpose is to build caring and respectful relationships between school, students and families so that young people develop resilience and independence, feeling safe and confident to take risks in order to achieve personal excellence.

We strive to cultivate an environment where learning is meaningful, collaborative and relevant; where curiosity is encouraged, where young people connect to create and produce work that matters to them and others.

We utilise an evidentiary-based process to individualise the assessment of each young person so teachers can design meaningful and personalised learning experiences, recognising the unique learning needs of every child.

We inspire students to be active and independent learners and responsible global citizens who take action to improve their world.

We support students to develop the capabilities that underpin flexible and analytical thinking, a capacity to work with others and an ability to move across subject disciplines to develop new expertise transferring learning into actions.

Aims

Elsternwick Primary School aims to implement a dynamic curriculum that:

- builds a learning culture valuing effort and provides opportunities for students to develop a growth mindset
- is outcome focussed
- is engaging, relevant and allows students to develop deep knowledge of processes and skills for life-long learning
- is differentiated to cater for the needs of students with a vast range of skills and interests
- appreciates individual, local and global differences
- empowers students to take action for a sustainable future
- creates opportunities for students to become problem solvers by encouraging deeper thinking, questioning, reflection and creativity
- supports students to become independent learners; setting clear learning goals and processes for goal reflection (GANAG) via consistent instructional processes and high yield strategies
- is compliant with the DET policies and values and based on the Victorian Curriculum

Implementation

The curriculum at Elsternwick Primary School encompasses the skills, knowledge and dispositions that have been identified as essential learning and priorities for all students to understand and demonstrate.

The Victorian Curriculum F–10 sets out what every student should learn during their first eleven years of schooling. The curriculum is the common set of knowledge and skills required by students for life-long learning, social development and active and informed citizenship.

The Victorian Curriculum F–10 incorporates the Australian Curriculum and reflects Victorian priorities and standards. Our school and teachers are responsible for the organisation of learning; they choose contexts and plan learning in ways that best meet their students' needs and interests.

Curriculum Planning

The Principal has the overall responsibility for the implementation of curriculum at the school. Aspects of this role can be delegated to other staff members who will work in conjunction with the Principal in developing curriculum delivery and programs. School Improvement Teams in English, Mathematics, Digital Technologies

and Student Wellbeing and Engagement develop specific pedagogy in curriculum areas and provide advice to the staff as a whole. Extra School Improvement teams develop and provide support in endeavours including Sustainability, Feedback and Well Being Initiatives.

Term planning is facilitated near the end of each term for the upcoming term to set directions and construct guidelines in Mathematics, English, and Inquiry, linking directly to the Victorian Curriculum, school instructional model (GANAG) and EPS teaching and learning pedagogy.

Year level teams will produce a curriculum planning document detailing the learning foci for the term. Weekly Professional Learning Team meetings will have a focus on student learning data and planning in order to provide differentiated approaches to teaching that cater for the needs of students with a range of interests, abilities, skills, and motivation. This will include references to the Victorian Curriculum. <http://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>.

Curriculum and year level leaders will ensure the Victorian Curriculum scope and sequence and curriculum coverage is monitored across the school. Strategic teams and professional learning teams are responsible for core curriculum development and delivery.

The school has developed a structured approach to curriculum planning that ensures a shared vision within the school on curriculum development, common documentation and common understandings of the whole school curricular.

The teaching of literacy and numeracy will be an integral component in all curriculum planning and delivery. Term and Weekly planners reflect the GANAG lesson schema. All planning documents, including work programs, are housed on google drive and shared with leadership and relevant stakeholders. Sub-School Leaders provide feedback on planners to each team at the start of the relevant teaching week.

Allocation Of Teaching Time Per Subject

Total Teaching Time Minutes per week 30 blocks of 50 min = 1500 Minutes	Blocks	F-2 Mins	3-4 Mins	5-6 Mins
Assembly	1	50	50	50
Reading	6	300	300	300
Writing	6	300	300	300
Mathematics	6	300	300	300
*Mandarin	1	50	50	50
*Art	1	50	50	50
*Music	1	50	50	50
*Digital Technologies	1	50	50	50
*PE	1	50	50	50
*Note that in any term each year level has four specialist classes, not five.				
Inquiry	2	100	100	100
I-Time / Discovery Time	2	100	100	100
Values / Circle Time	2	100	50	100
Buddies. Prep and Year 4	1	50		
Sport Term 2 and 4 (average)			100	50
TOTAL		1400	1500	1500

Assessment and Reporting

Assessment, formative and summative, is embedded in Elsternwick Primary Schools' yearly assessment schedule which details the triangulation of data to inform reporting and planning. Teachers are responsible for maintaining correct records, and keeping data and tracking systems up-to date.

Relevant whole school tracking documents including a termly assessment of reading levels and monitoring of IEPs are shared on google drive.

These tracking documents ensure the timing and accountability of Individual Education Plans (IEPs) for students who are assessed at working 6 months behind level or 12 months ahead of level. They also ensure an up to date data base of students reading levels is accessible by all staff.

Elsternwick Primary School provides opportunities to meet with parents in February to learn about their children, (Meet and Greet), and at structured Parent Teacher Conferences at the start of semester 2. Student Support Group (SSG) meetings form part of the IEP discussion and the Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD) meetings are held with relevant stakeholders at the commencement of each new IEP cycle. Meetings requested by teacher, parent or other stakeholder are ongoing.

Parents and guardians receive formal student reports, [assessed against the Victorian Curriculum F-10], twice a year at June and December.

English

English learning should encompass the modes of Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening as outlined in the Victorian Curriculum F-10

It is expected that ten hours of literacy are scheduled each week. This can include integrating literacy teaching across other areas of learning.

Mathematics

Mathematics teaching should encompass the areas of Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability as outlined in the Victorian Curriculum F-10.

It is expected that five hours of numeracy are scheduled each week. This could be integrated across other areas of learning.

Health and Physical Education

In accordance with DET policy, Elsternwick Primary School will mandate the following times to Physical Education:

F-2: 1 x 50 min specialist session each week; plus further 20 min 300K. Foundation additional 30 minutes per week as PMP.

3-6: 3 hours per week of physical education and sport with 50 minutes for physical education.

The school will participate in the Southern Metropolitan Region District sports events, including summer sport, winter sport, athletics and cross country.

The Swimming Program will run once per year for each year level. All students will participate in two weeks of intensive swimming lessons 10 x 45mins.

The Physical Education Program will be supplemented by outside sporting associations that may run clinics in Physical Education sessions to support the development of specific sporting skills.

The school will have a whole school approach to Health Education, including Life Education. Other health related topics that the school will cover include Healthy Eating, Student Wellbeing (e.g. School Values). For more information see:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/governance/spag/curriculum/programs/health.htm>.

In accordance with DET policy the school must provide effective drug education consistent with the national Principles for School Drug Education and should deliver 10 hours of drug education per year level, per year. This could be integrated into other learning programs offered by the school.

Languages

According to DET policy, schools must provide tuition in languages from Foundation to Year 10 by a suitably qualified teacher and report student achievement from Level 4 onwards.

At Elsternwick Primary School the Language is Mandarin.

Digital Technologies

At Elsternwick Primary School it is a priority to include Digital Technologies across the whole school curriculum.

A Digital Technologies School Improvement Team (SIT team) provides advice on Digital Technologies priorities.

Year 5 and 6 students take part in the 1:1 laptop program. Senior teachers use google classroom as part of their instructional practice.

Years F – 4 have access to iPads, laptops and desktop computers

All students attend ICT specialist sessions weekly, three terms of the school year.

All classroom teachers are expected to integrate Digital Technologies into their learning programs and are supported with ongoing professional learning through a variety of forums.

All year level Team planners must include a Digital Technologies component, for more information see: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/elearning/default.htm>.

Refer to DET's School policy & Advisory Guide 'Using Digital Technologies to Support Learning and Teaching'.

Reference: Acceptable Use Agreement <http://elsternwickps.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Internet-Use-ICT-Acceptable-Use-policy-and-procedures.pdf>

Students with Disabilities

The Department of Education and Training and Elsternwick 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.

Elsternwick Primary School will liaise with DET to provide suitable programs and resources to support the delivery of high quality schooling for students with disabilities.

Refer to the Program for Students with Disabilities – operational guidelines for schools 2018.

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/needs/psdguidelines.docx>

Outdoor Education and Excursions

The school will offer excursions and/or incursions to complement the curriculum. Other experiences, such as camps, sporting programs and leadership courses will also be offered.

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/health/Pages/outdoor.aspx>

Special school events and days will be celebrated at the school to enhance curriculum programs. For example: Education Week, Book Week, Literacy and Numeracy Week.

Strategic Plan

<http://elsternwickps.vic.edu.au/index.php/strategic-plan/>

The Elsternwick Primary School strategic plan is the school's statement to its community about what it stands for and intends to do, over the next four years, to improve student outcomes. It defines what the school values most and sets out the school's goals and targets, key strategies for improvement and its resourcing priorities.

The school will ensure that it has a comprehensive budget to support curriculum programs. Budget requests will be formulated by program leaders in October before the next school year. These will be compiled by the Principal and discussed in the Finance Subcommittee meeting. Indicative budgets must be approved by School Council prior to the school year. Program Leaders are strongly encouraged to expend curriculum budgets in first and second terms of the school year.

Program Evaluation and Review

The Leadership team 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, On Demand, PAT testing, Running Records, school based testing, and teacher judgments based on learning outcomes in the Victorian Curriculum.

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

References

Links to DET School Policy & Advisory Guide

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/Pages/spag.aspx>

Curriculum

<http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/foundation10/f10index.aspx>

Using Digital Technologies to Support Learning and Teaching

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/curriculum/Pages/techsupport.aspx>

Student Wellbeing and Learning

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/curriculum/Pages/wellbeing.aspx>

Students with Disabilities

<https://www.education.gov.au/students-disability>

Related Policies and Guidelines

- Elsternwick Primary School Student Engagement Policy - http://elsternwickps.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/2016-Student-Engagement-Wellbeing-Policy-FORMATTED_MW.pdf
- P-12 Principles of Teaching and Learning
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/support/Pages/teaching.aspx>
- AITSL Standards
<https://www.aitsl.edu.au/australian-professional-standards-for-teachers>
- Elsternwick Primary School Instructional Model Guidelines
- Elsternwick Primary School Homework Guidelines
- Elsternwick Primary School Assessment Schedule

Scope

This policy covers information pertinent to:

- Victorian Curriculum <http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/foundation10/f10index.aspx>
- Teaching and Learning at Elsternwick Primary School (see EPS Staff Handbook)
- Curriculum Planning (see EPS Staff Handbook)
- Student Engagement and Wellbeing
http://elsternwickps.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/2016-Student-Engagement-Wellbeing-Policy-FORMATTED_MW.pdf

Definitions

Curriculum - the subjects comprising a course of study in a school or college.

Victorian Curriculum - The Victorian Curriculum F–10 sets out what every student should learn during their first eleven years of schooling. The curriculum is the common set of knowledge and skills required by students for life-long learning, social development and active and informed citizenship.

<http://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>

Implementation

This policy works together with the Elsternwick Primary School's Instructional Model policy, English policy, Numeracy policy, Student Wellbeing policy, Inquiry Learning Cycle and other relevant policies.

Victorian Curriculum

The Victorian Curriculum F-10 was instituted as the Elsternwick Primary School curriculum for reporting and assessment purposes since semester 1, 2016.

Evaluation

The Curriculum Policy will be reviewed annually.