



Mernda Primary School 0488

CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

Curriculum covers all the arrangements the school makes for students' 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.

Our school encourages its students to strive for excellence in all of their endeavours. To achieve this, the school provides sequential teaching and learning programs that deliver a comprehensive, broadly based and inclusive curriculum.

Each year the school will map out its curriculum offerings. It will be in the form of a Curriculum Plan (see **Appendix A**).

GUIDELINES

Our school will recognize and respond to diverse student needs when developing its curriculum programs and curriculum plan (see **Appendix A**).

Our school will comply with all DEECD 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. The Aus/VELS will be implemented from Foundation to year Six at our school.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development places a high priority on the teaching of Physical and Sport Education, LOTE and EAL. Our school also places a high priority on the teaching of these learning areas.

School curriculum programs are designed to enhance effective learning.

Preparing young people for the transition from primary to secondary school is a critical element which is implemented via our transition and pathways Annual Implementation.

Teaching and learning programs will be resourced through Program Budgets.

PROGRAM

Our 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 particular 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.

<http://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/edulibrary/public/schadmin/environment/4-3.pdf>

The Curriculum Committee will determine the curriculum program for the following year, based on student demand and the needs of the school's Curriculum Plan to maintain balance and a broad provision of subject choices.

Input will be sought from the relevant staff in the curriculum area when determining programs for the following school year.

The Aus/VELS will be used as a framework for curriculum development and delivery from Foundation to Year Six in accordance with DEECD policy and guidelines.

Every year our school will do an audit of the curriculum via our Annual Implementation Plan teams (Literacy, Numeracy, Student Engagement and Wellbeing and Transition) This will enable professional learning teams to audit the curriculum of a particular program to see which domains, dimensions and standards of the Aus/VELS are currently being addressed. This audit will inform future curriculum planning.

To facilitate this implementation, planning documents, assessment criteria and record keeping pro-formas will be produced that reflect the Australian Curriculum and Victorian Essential Learning Standards (AusVELS). School Council will be kept informed of curriculum developments via reports tabled at the monthly School Council meetings.

The DEECD requirements related to the teaching of Physical Education, Sports Education, LOTE and EAL will continue to be implemented.

The use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) will be integrated across the curriculum to support the improvement of teaching and learning outcomes.

Early Years and Middle Years of schooling approaches will continue to be developed and implemented.

In developing its curriculum plan the school will provide a broad range of educational pathways to ensure improved student outcomes.

Curriculum leaders will be required to review their policy statement and prepare a comprehensive annual program budget and submit these to School Council.

LINKS AND APPENDICES (including processes related to this policy)

Links which are connected with this policy are:

- <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/curriculum/default.htm>
- <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/curriculum/year10to12.htm>
- <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/curriculum/elearning.htm>
- <http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vce/>
- <http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vcal/index.html>

Appendices which are connected with this policy are:

- Appendix A: Curriculum Plan – including time allocations

EVALUATION

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

Appendix A

Curriculum Plan – including time allocations

Years Prep/ Foundation-Year Six

The curriculum is based on the Aus/VELS standards. The timetable is structured on a weekly basis. Each period is 60 minutes. The breakdown of the weekly cycle is as follows:

Years Prep (Foundation to Year Six)

Prep (Foundation)-Six (from 2014)	
Domain	Minimum Minutes per week
English	600
Mathematics	300
Science	60
Humanities (History/Geography)	60
LOTE-grade 5/6 2014 & Prep 2015	60
PE/ Health- Grade Prep-3	150
Grade 4-6	180
Performing Art	60
Visual Art	60

*Includes the Aus/VELS Interpersonal Development, Personal Learning, Thinking Processes, and Communication domains