

PARKHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

POLICY: Curriculum Policy

PROGRAM LEADER: ROD McKinlay

DATE RATIFIED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL: May 2015

RATIONALE

Australian schools use a range of curriculum options, including AusVELS, to develop and provide education programs that facilitate meaningful learning for students. At Parkhill Primary School our 21st century curriculum presents students with the opportunity to develop deep understandings on a range of concepts and areas of information throughout their lives. Our broad curriculum is planned and taught sequentially and encourages students to have ownership of all aspects of their learning. It is designed to develop thinking, inquiry and social skills, foster engagement with the wider community and include the use of a variety of technology to assist in their learning. To support the delivery of the curriculum at Parkhill we access and select a wide range of suitable educational resources to support the curriculum and undertake a range of student assessment and reporting activities to support future student learning.

AIMS

To implement a dynamic curriculum program that:

1. is compliant with DEECD policies and based on AusVELs and/or the Australian Curriculum.
2. is engaging and relevant and enables students to develop increasing levels of knowledge as well as processes and skills for life-long learning.
3. uses differentiated teaching to meet the needs of students and their individual interests, abilities, skills, and motivation levels.
4. provides opportunities for students to think, reflect and become independent, resourceful, adaptable learners who are creative problem solvers.
5. enables students to interact with other students and the wider community.

IMPLEMENTATION

The Curriculum Policy replaces all previous policies for AusVELS subjects.

- This policy works in conjunction with the Assessment and Reporting policy and Homework policy.
- 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. Professional Learning Teams will be formed to develop specific curriculum areas and provide advice to the staff as a whole.
- The curriculum taught at Parkhill Primary School will encompass all the areas in AusVELS, which includes the Australian Curriculum (^{AC}). The domains are found at the following site: <http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/> and are summarised below.

Physical Personal & Social Learning	Discipline-Based Learning	Interdisciplinary Learning
Civics & Citizenship	The Arts	Communication
Health & Physical Education	English ^{AC}	Design Creativity & Technology
Personal Learning	The Humanities	Information & Communication Technologies
Interpersonal Development	The Humanities- History ^{AC}	Thinking Processes
	The Humanities- Geography	
	The Humanities-Economics	
	Languages	
	Mathematics ^{AC}	
	Science ^{AC}	

- Cross Curricular Learning in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, Asia and Australia's engagement with Asia and Sustainability spans across all curriculum areas.
- The teaching of literacy and numeracy will be an integral component in all curriculum planning and delivery.
- The school will have a range of specialist programs to deliver various curriculum programs such as: Physical Education, Chinese, Science, Library and Visual Art/Performing Arts. These will be offered depending on school/DET priorities; access to qualified teaching staff and timetable provisions.

- The school will teach a concept based directed inquiry curriculum. The curriculum is progressive and different focuses are studied in each level team.
- The Inquiry Learning Program will encompass learning in all the domains in AusVELS over the school year. A range of thinking curriculum tools such as ‘Habits of Mind’, ‘Debonno’s Thinking Hats’, ‘Bloom’s Taxonomy’ and ‘Gardner’s Multiple Intelligences’ will compliment this curriculum.
- A range of DET programs will support curriculum delivery in the school. These can include English as an Additional Language (EAL), Multicultural Education, the Language Support Program, Health Education, Koorie/WANNIK.
- Gifted Education, ESL New Arrivals Program, Drug Education, and the Program For Students with Disabilities will form part of the school offering where appropriate.
- A range of teaching resources will be accessed when developing curriculum programs.
- Teaching and learning resources include any spoken, written or visual text or activity used or conducted by schools such as text books , novels , films , plays , radio programs , multimedia , digital learning resources including video, audio, text, animations and images , lectures , speeches and performances. Teaching resources can be commercial products or those accessed on the DET website, FUSE or those created by the teachers?
- The school will engage with affiliations to assist in curriculum planning and delivery (e.g. Peta PETA? – Primary English Teachers Association).
- A comprehensive assessment schedule will be devised and implemented to support assessment of student learning (See Parkhill PS Assessment Schedule).
- The school will offer excursions and/or incursions to compliment the curriculum. Generally two excursions and two incursions will be organised per year per class. Other experiences, such as camps, sporting programs and leadership courses will also be offered.
- Special events and days will be celebrated at the school to enhance curriculum programs. (e.g. Science Week, Education Week, Harmony Day, Book Week, Literacy, Numeracy Weeks, etc).
- Special provisions for particular curriculum areas are detailed below:

A basic guide to period allocations per fortnight which equates to a total of 67 periods – periods are based on 45min slots.

(We have 6 periods per day plus 30 minutes at the start of the day. ie: 9am – 9.30 is not counted as a period. Therefore:

6 periods per day + 30min = 30 periods per week = 60 periods per fortnight

PLUS: 10 - 30min sessions per fortnight (from 9am – 9.30am) = 5hrs = 6 periods and 30 min or 7 periods to round off.)

Subject	Years Prep, 1 & 2		Years 3&4		Years 5&6	
	Number of periods	% of time allocation	Number of periods	% of time allocation	Number of periods	% of time allocation
Literacy	31	46%	30	44%	28	41%
Maths	10	15%	10	15%	10	15%
Inquiry	10	15%	8	12%	10	15%
Wellbeing	2	3%	2	3%	2	3%
Science	2	3%	2	3%	2	3%
Library	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%
Phys Ed	2	3%	2	3%	2	3%
Performing Arts	2	3%	2	3%	2	3%
Visual Arts	2	3%	2	3%	2	3%
Chinese	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%
Sport (incl. Just Get Active)	3	4%	4	6%	6	9%
Garden (Grade 3/4 only)	n/a	n/a	2	3%	n/a	n/a
Assembly	2	3%	2	3%	2	3%

SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT OF CURRICULUM BASED TARGETS WITHIN THE STRATEGIC PLAN

Parkhill measures its success through:

- AusVELS student achievement data
- Student, staff and parent opinion surveys
- NAPLAN
- Teacher assessments

EVALUATION

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

APPENDICES

- Nil

REFERENCES

- AusVELS: <http://ausvels.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>
- DEECD - School Policy and Advisory Guide:
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/Pages/azindex.aspx>
- DET: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/>
- DET: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/directions/wannik/default.htm>
- DET: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/governance/spag/curriculum/default.htm>
- DET: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/proflearning/e5/default.htm/>
- DET: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/default.htm>
- DET: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/programs/default.htm>
- DET: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/teachingprinciples/>
- Education and Training Reform Act 2006
[http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/Domino/Web_Notes/LDMS/PubStatbook.nsf/f932b66241ecf1b7ca256e92000e23be/575C47EA02890DA4CA25717000217213/\\$FILE/06-024a.pdf](http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/Domino/Web_Notes/LDMS/PubStatbook.nsf/f932b66241ecf1b7ca256e92000e23be/575C47EA02890DA4CA25717000217213/$FILE/06-024a.pdf)