

St. Joseph's School, Sorrento

Curriculum Plan



St. Joseph's is a school which operates with the consent of the Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne and is owned, operated and governed by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd (MACS), where formation and education are based on the principles of Catholic doctrine, and where the teachers are outstanding in true doctrine and uprightness of life.

Curriculum and learning policy

Vision

As a vibrant learning community, we will develop engaged, independent and successful learners who will contribute to the world for the good of all

Mission

To provide a rigorous and contemporary Catholic education that integrates faith, life, culture and social and emotional wellbeing

St. Joseph's is committed to providing educational opportunities that actively welcome, engage, inspire and challenge all students to learn in a safe and enlivening Catholic environment.

Purpose

Our school is a community that exemplifies the gospel values of love, forgiveness, justice and truth. Our school community recognises that everyone has the right to be respected, to feel safe and be safe and, in turn, our school community acknowledges each member's own obligation to behave responsibly. This Policy is intended to guide our school's actions. It has been developed in consultation with the school community and seeks to prioritise respectful relationships and safety in response to the rights and needs of all members of the school community. A safe and supportive environment respects the rights of all students to learn, the rights of all teachers to teach and the rights of all members of the school community to be safe.

Every person at the school has a right to feel safe and to learn. Therefore, our school aims:

- To promote the values of honesty, fairness and respect for others
- to acknowledge the worth of all members of the community and their right to work and learn in a positive environment
- to affirm cooperation as well as responsible independence in learning
- to foster self-discipline and to develop responsibility for one's own behaviour.

The Victorian Curriculum is the Foundation to Year 10 curriculum for Victorian government and Catholic schools for implementation from 2017. The Victorian Curriculum reflects Victorian priorities and standards for F–10 and incorporates the Australian Curriculum. It defines what it is that all students have the opportunity to learn as a result of their schooling, set out as a series of learning progressions. See <https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/curriculum/foundation-10/Pages/default.aspx>.

The Victorian Curriculum F–10 recognises that increasingly, in a world where knowledge itself is constantly growing and evolving, students need to develop, in addition to discrete discipline knowledge and understanding, a set of skills, behaviours and dispositions, or general capabilities, that apply across discipline content and equip them to be lifelong learners able to operate with confidence in a complex, information-rich, globalised world.

The St. Joseph's Curriculum Plan has been developed in light of the directions for Catholic education and principles of curriculum from the *Horizons of Hope* education framework: Catholic schools provide an excellent holistic education centred on the students and engaging them in authentic, purposeful learning; and incorporating the philosophy of the Victorian Curriculum F–10 and the Religious Education Curriculum Framework.

The curriculum is a statement of the purpose of schooling and defines what it is that all students have the opportunity to learn as a result of their schooling.

Principles

At St. Joseph's

- The Victorian Curriculum F-10 is the documentation that directs the Learning and Teaching in the school
- The following documents combine to provide a rich Religious Education Program through a Faith Based Inquiry Lens: The Religious Education Framework, Horizons of Hope, Pedagogy of Encounter and the Catholic Social Teachings.

Scope

Our school curriculum defines what it is that all students have the opportunity to learn as a result of their schooling at St. Joseph's.

At St. Joseph's, curriculum is enriched by the values, beliefs, perspectives and experiences of each member of the learning community when they engage actively with Catholic understandings of the human person. This orientation towards the person means that the process of curriculum design is shared with students, creating within them a sense of ownership and self-efficacy as learners. Our learning community fosters the conditions for students to have a voice in the design process, allowing them to make decisions about what they need to know and when.

Implementation

St. Joseph's will implement the curriculum by:

Ensuring the curriculum is designed and delivered from whole-school to level planning to individual teacher plans. These are created in a collaborative and supported environment using student data. This ensures that a guaranteed and viable curriculum is driving student learning and lifting student outcomes.

Curriculum content

The school implements the Victorian Curriculum in order to provide students with a comprehensive and cumulative curriculum from Foundation to Year 10.

The school's teaching and learning program is the school-based plan for delivering this common set of knowledge and skills in ways that best utilise local resources, expertise and contexts. Information technology is an integral part of our curriculum as a basic tool for learning. Supported by our governing body, St. Joseph's will develop strong processes for monitoring student progress and the application of appropriate explicit teaching and intervention strategies.

St. Joseph’s will also take inspiration from the *Horizons of Hope* education framework. This framework supports Catholic school communities to engage in dialogue about the distinctive nature of learning and teaching, leading learning and enhancing Catholic identity in our schools. The framework is a living document that has been added to over the years with examples of practice from schools, as well as additional strategy statements in the areas of Leadership, Wellbeing, Diversity and Religious Education.

Religious Education has a central place in the curriculum at St. Joseph’s, as it reflects our unique character of Catholic identity and focus as a Catholic school. The primary source for developing our Religious Education program is the Religious Education Curriculum Framework, developed by our governing body MACS.

Whole-school curriculum plan and time allocation

The following provides an outline of the learning areas and recommended weekly time allocation across F–6. Multiple learning areas are often part of a unit and not always taught as separate subject areas. This is ensured through time allocations which are in line with recommendations of the educational authorities.

Learning Areas	Recommended Time Allocated
<p>English</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading & Viewing • Speaking & Listening • Grammar & Spelling • Writing 	<p>2 hours daily (total time should not be less than 10 hours weekly on average over the course of a school year and may vary across year levels) 75 minutes per week (15 minutes daily)</p>
<p>Mathematics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number & Algebra • Measurement • Geometry • Statistics & Probability 	<p>1 hour daily (total time should not be less than 5 hours weekly on average over the course of a school year)</p>
<p>Religious Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrating Faith Based Inquiry 	<p>2.5 hours weekly</p>
<p>Health & Physical Education</p>	<p>2.5 hours weekly</p>
<p>Arts</p>	<p>1 hour weekly</p>
<p>Humanities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civics & Citizenship • Economics • Geography • History <p>Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science as a Human Endeavour • Earth Science • Biological Science • Chemical Science 	<p>2 hours and 15 minutes weekly</p> <p>The learning areas of Humanities, Science, Health & Physical Education, and Technology will be taught, ensuring an average of 3 hours weekly over the course of a school year.</p> <p>This is through the focus of the integrated unit of work using an inquiry approach developed under the St. Joseph’s Conceptual Framework.</p>

Learning Areas	Recommended Time Allocated
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Science Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design & Technology Digital Technologies 	
TOTAL	25 hours weekly

Capabilities

The Victorian Curriculum includes both knowledge and skills. It is expected that the skills and knowledge defined in the capabilities will be developed, practised, deployed and demonstrated by students in and through their learning across the curriculum:

- Critical & Creative Thinking
- Ethical
- Intercultural
- Personal & Social.

The skills and knowledge defined in the capabilities will be developed in student learning across the curriculum areas where it is relevant and authentic to do so.

Curriculum organisation and implementation

The school's planning for curriculum draws on the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) curriculum planning site for age-appropriate content, sequential learning patterns, progressions of learning and interrelated aspects of the content and skills and of the desired learning capabilities. Refer to the Pedagogical Framework.

All content is developed using the following documents:

- St. Joseph's policies for each of the learning areas
- St. Joseph's Religious Education Scope and Sequence: Religious Education Curriculum Framework and Horizons of Hope
- Victorian Curriculum F–10
- Statement of Philosophy.

A variety of other resources, including online resources, will be available to support planning.

Evaluation

This Policy will be monitored and reviewed by the staff, in accordance with the School Improvement Plan or as required.

School policies/references

<p>Pastoral Care of Students</p> <p>Assessment and Reporting Policy</p> <p>Assessment and Reporting Procedures</p>
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