

St Mary's School, Alexandra



CURRICULUM PLAN

St. Mary's School, Alexandra, 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:

Called to be caring and confident, our learning journey is guided by the gospel of Jesus.

Mission:

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Alexandra, offers the richness of Catholic Education and tradition to the growing child in an environment where its example is the centre of all learning.

St. Mary's School Community should experience and promote the gospel values of love, empathy, trust, respect, honesty and fairness.

We aim to develop the whole child spiritually, socially, emotionally, physically and intellectually. Our school adheres to and acknowledges Australian democratic values and principles.

Purpose

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.'

<http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/pages/foundation10/f10index.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. Mary's School, Alexandra* 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 Framework 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 Mary's School Alexandra:

- Learning occurs places through meaningful partnerships encompassing the local and wider community
- Learning is ongoing, personalised, innovative and reflective; giving all stakeholders voice and choice.
- We value a contemporary learning environment which is rich and engaging , personalised, safe and inclusive.
- Wellbeing is integral to learning and students' motivation and success.
- Assessment is pivotal in the journey of learning and is evidence based, driven by data and strong knowledge of pedagogy to support student outcomes.

Scope

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

At St. Mary's School, Alexandra 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 designing process, allowing them to make decisions about what they need to know and when.

Implementation

St. Mary's School, Alexandra will implement the curriculum by:

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. 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-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 MACS, *St. Mary's School, Alexandra* will develop strong processes for monitoring student progress and the application of appropriate explicit teaching and intervention strategies. School Leadership will review curriculum planning and teaching practises to be implemented within the school on an annual basis.

St. Mary's School, Alexandra will also take inspiration from the *Horizons of Hope Education Framework for the Archdiocese of Melbourne*. 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 Mary's School Alexandra* 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 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.

Curriculum Overview

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
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<p>English</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reading & Viewing ● Speaking & Listening ● Grammar & Spelling ● Writing 	<p>4 x 2hrs Explicit English sessions per week. (Including 3x 20 min or 2x 30 mins explicit Spelling each week). Times may vary across year levels. Total English time should not be less than 10 hours weekly on average over the course of a school year, including English skills and strategies integrated into other curriculum areas.</p>
<p>Mathematics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Number & Algebra ● Measurement ● Geometry ● Statistics & Probability 	<p>5 x 1hr Explicit Maths session per week Mathematics time should not be less than 5 hours weekly on average over the course of a school year, including Mathematics skills and strategies integrated into other curriculum areas.</p>
<p>Religious Education</p>	<p>Daily Prayer/ Meditation. A minimum of 2 hours per week explicit RE lessons Each class leads prayer gathering once per term e.g. assembly, mass, class liturgy. Whole school concepts matched with Integrated Studies</p>
<p>Health & Physical Education</p>	<p>1 x 1 hr Specialist P.E session per week 25mins per week morning walking track</p>
<p>Arts</p>	<p>1 x 1 hr Specialist Visual Art session per week 1 x 40mins Specialist Music session per week</p>
<p>Languages</p>	<p>1 x 40mins Specialist Japanese session per week</p>
<p>Social and Emotional Learning</p>	<p>1 x 1hr Explicit session per week</p>

<p>Humanities/Science/Technologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Civics & Citizenship ● Economics ● Geography ● History Science ● Science as a human endeavour ● Earth science ● Biological science ● Chemical science ● Physical science Technology ● Design & Technology ● Digital technologies 	<p>2 x 1hr Explicit session per week</p> <p>Inquiry learning is an approach that is expected to be used in these areas of the curriculum.</p>
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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 VCCA curriculum planning site for age appropriate content, sequential learning patterns and interrelated aspects of the content and skills and of the desired learning capabilities. Refer to Pedagogical Framework.

All content is developed using the following documents:

- *St Mary's School Alexandra* School Policies for each of the Learning Areas
- *St Mary's School Alexandra* Religious Education Scope and Sequence: Religious Education Curriculum Framework Document
- Victorian Curriculum Framework 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

[Assessment and Reporting Policy](#)

[St. Mary's English Policy 2021.docx](#)

[St. Mary's Spelling Policy 2021.docx](#)

[St. Mary's eLearning and ICT Policy 2021.docx](#)

[St. Mary's Maths Policy 2021.docx](#)

[St. Mary's Science Policy 2021.docx](#)

[St. Mary's LOTE Policy 2021.docx](#)

[St. Mary's Health and Physical Education Policy 2021.docx](#)

[St. Mary's Arts Policy 2021.docx](#)