RATIONAL

Effective schools are characterised by
- teachers who have high expectations, share clearly defined educational aims and implement strategies effectively.
- the delivery of challenging programs which are linked to coherent curriculum policies.

Learning outcomes are enhanced when students
- experience success and satisfaction in their learning.
- feel confident in their capacity to be independent learners.
- feel secure in a supportive classroom environment which encourages students to value themselves and others as learners.

PURPOSE

To improve students’
- analytical, critical and creative thinking and problem-solving skills;
- fluent communication with others using a range of spoken, written, graphic and other non-verbal means of expression;
- ability to access, organise, analyse, and present information;
- use and application of relevant mathematical ideas and techniques;
- use and application of computer and other relevant technology; and
- skills in leadership, teamwork, conflict resolution and decision-making.

GUIDELINES

- A coherent curriculum will be presented in the key learning areas consistent with Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) guidelines and Department of Education & Early Childhood Development (DEECD) policies.
- Students will be provided with published course outlines and descriptions of assessment tasks that clearly indicate assessment criteria.
- Teaching approaches and learning goals will establish clear expectations of students and build on their previous knowledge and experience.
- Assessment tasks will be challenging and relevant.
- Teachers will use a variety of strategies and create flexible programs which acknowledge the diversity of learning styles and encourage students to raise expectations of themselves.
- The use of digital technologies will be embedded within teaching practice.
- Teachers will assist students to learn ‘how to learn’ and to critically reflect on their learning.
- Creativity and a willingness to actively participate will be encouraged by designing learning situations for students where risk-taking is encouraged.
- Extension programs which enhance student skills, knowledge and personal development will be implemented by Learning Area teams and appropriate coordinators.
- Parental involvement in monitoring and supporting student progress and development will be encouraged.
- Community expertise, resources and facilities will be accessed where appropriate to provide further support, depth and diversity in learning situations.
- Teachers will be encouraged to enhance their knowledge and skills through planned professional development.