



St Francis of Assisi  
PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL

## LEARNING AND TEACHING POLICY

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### Rationale

St Francis of Assisi Primary school exists to promote the growth of Christian faith and life long learning in our students. We believe our learning environment should be built on relationships of trust and respect, valuing both the individual and the community. We believe that we are all unique in our ability to learn and we can all experience success given enough time and support. We believe education is about supporting child to make informed choices so that that can grow into being the very best people they can be. We believe learning and teaching should be rewarding for all concerned and should equip our children to live actively and harmoniously in our global community. We intend to build a faith-filled learning community and develop a culture of learning and collaboration, with our Catholic Identity at its core. It is our objective to positively engage students in all learning opportunities at St Francis of Assisi School. We honour our school's design principles the Contemporary Learning Schema (CEM) and AusVELS curriculum.

### Aims - Design Principles

- We develop positive relationships, which reflect our faith filled community. We make a difference in our world by living out our Catholic values and traditions.
- Partnerships are essential in supporting all learning and wellbeing.
- Our students are engaged in purposeful learning and their learning is monitored, shared and celebrated.
- Our students are learning within and beyond the classroom and are connecting with others.
- Our staff enhance their individual practice by working collaboratively to provide engaging and relevant learning opportunities.

### Implementation

#### Staff Responsibilities

- As a teaching staff we see ourselves as a community of life-long learners committed to the provision of innovative learning opportunities for every student.
- We respect that parents are the first educators of their children and we work in a spirit of trust and co-operation to exchange appropriate information and support in the interests of each child's learning.
- We strive to build a school community of lifelong learners, nurturing student's relationships with other children and adults, encouraging curiosity and sharing a sense of fun.
- We encourage our students to be responsible for their own learning and give them pertinent feedback from timely assessment so they can confidently develop their own goals for future learning.

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- We accept responsibility for working consistently to ensure that all children develop spiritually, academically, physically, emotionally and socially
- We value each individual child, respecting their unique strengths, talents, and family background.
- We provide rich learning environments where learning is relevant and purposeful as well as providing structured, focused learning opportunities which are designed to support students at their own point of need.
- We design, plan and teach a rich and contemporary curriculum based on inquiry taking into account external requirements, expected standards, local needs and student's interests.
- We understand that each child needs the skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate in a global community in the future, a future we can only try to imagine.
- We monitor, evaluate, report and communicate learning achievements to parents and students as well as appropriate authorities as required.
- We believe that children learn best when they are engaged in learning programs which are planned at a level at which they can achieve success and we understand mistakes to be a valued part of that learning process.
- We create and maintain well organised learning environments with attractive surroundings and safe facilities.
- We seek to provide resources and facilities that support contemporary and differentiated learning.

#### Student Responsibilities

- To be responsible for their learning and have a sense of ownership of their own learning.
- To be risk-takers, confident to have a go, to be participants in a variety of learning situations, be it group, paired, individual, larger group setting or whole school activities.
- To develop a positive and flexible attitude.
- To respect and value other individuals and work co-operatively at all times.
- To contribute to a sense of community.
- To respect the school environment and it's resources.
- To be honest.
- To think positively and encouragingly about themselves and others.
- To help to make St. Francis of Assisi a place where we share laughter, a sense of fun and provide a safe environment for all who enter.
- To welcome others into friendship groups.
- To consistently work to the best of their ability, taking pride in their own achievements, being happy with a 'personal best'.
- To be resilient, managing life's ups and downs with a sense of resilience. To be organised, have things ready, be prepared for learning. To be able to ask for help when the going is tough and support is needed. To have the courage to speak up when things are not right
- To stay curious about life inside and outside of school. To step into leadership roles when there is a need.
- To be a participant in a broad range of activities, designing, imagining, creating, analysing, building, inquiring, thinking.

#### Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

- To work in a partnership with staff of the school in a spirit of collaboration and trust.
- To foster a spirit of inquiry and curiosity in each child and nurture in them a positive attitude to learning.
- To respect the professional wisdom and skills of the staff. To share information as appropriate.

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- To understand and respect that the academic, social, physical, spiritual and emotional development of each child is unique.
- To encourage the wellbeing of their own children and other students by supporting the school's policies and protocols.
- To encourage children to see themselves as responsible for their own learning and promote the behaviours of independence and resilience.
- To provide timely and constructive feedback to staff to support school/home partnerships in the interests of the children.
- To honour the commitments to support the learning environment, eg: following through with homework policy, paying fees, providing school uniform etc.
- To support the staff in administrative tasks.(eg: returning forms promptly, returning phone calls, keeping us up to date with contact details etc)