

1 December 2014

CURRICULUM – PRIMARY SCHOOL

STUDENT POLICY

The Primary School curriculum has a strong focus on Literacy, Numeracy and Information and Communication Technology skills. The core Learning Areas are English, Mathematics, Society and Environment, Science, The Arts (including Music and Visual Art), Technology and Enterprise, Indonesian, Health and Physical Education, and Christian and Religious Education.

Our aim is for every classroom to be a technology-rich learning environment, equipping our students with strong Information Literacy skills. Students have ready access to notebook computers, with the emphasis being on portability and connectivity.

Teachers provide academic learning programmes that cater for different learning styles. The lessons may include play-based investigations, direct teaching, research and project work, peer tutoring and collaborative groupwork. We emphasise the holistic development of the child and offer our students the opportunity to develop their strengths and build on their weaknesses.

We acknowledge the differing needs of students and seek to provide for each student's particular level of development. The School provides an Academic Extension programme as well as a Learning Support programme.

Specialist teachers are employed to teach Music, Indonesian, Visual Arts and Physical Education and Library, with students moving to the appropriate specialist facilities for these lessons. The specialist teachers, in conjunction with classroom teachers, also provide a range of activities such as concerts, cultural days, exhibitions and Inter-School competitions.

Swimming lessons are provided for students in Years 1 – 6 in conjunction with Austswim. These lessons are held over a two week period at Joondalup Arena.

Students in Years 4, 5 and 6 attend a camp each year. These camps support the curriculum that is covered in each year group. Excursions and incursions are organised throughout the year, to support our learning and teaching programmes. It is compulsory for all students to attend, as future learning activities are developed from these experiences.

The Primary School offers a varied Music programme. Students in Year 3 learn a string instrument (either the violin or the cello). Year 5 students learn a band instrument, combining to form the Year 5 Concert Band. Instruments for both the Year 3 and Year 5 programmes are provided by the School. In addition, professional music tutors offer instrumental lessons at the School during school time for students who choose to make use of this opportunity.

Chapel Services and Assemblies are held weekly.

HOMWORK POLICY – PRIMARY SCHOOL

Kindergarten and Pre-Primary students are not allocated homework, although we do encourage home reading. As a guideline, Pre-Primary students' activities should include shared reading and experimental writing. Kindergarten students are able to borrow story sacks from the Kindergarten library during Semester Two of each year.

Year 1 and Year 2 homework will consist mainly of reading and being read to. It may also include unfinished class work, spelling and Mathematics revision. The recommended time to spend on homework, including reading, is 20 - 30 minutes a day, Monday to Friday.

Year 3 and Year 4 homework will consist of daily reading, completion of unfinished class work and set assignments. It may also include projects and research. The recommended time to spend on homework, including reading, is 30 - 45 minutes a day, Monday to Friday.

Year 5 and Year 6 homework will consist of daily reading, completion of unfinished class work and set assignments. It may also include projects and research. The recommended time to spend on homework, including reading, is 45 - 60 minutes a day, Monday to Friday.

Specific classroom policies and practices will be provided within the class handbook. This will be available from the class teacher in Term 1 each year.