SCHOOL CONTEXT

Gilles Street Primary School is a reception to year 7 school with a mainstream and Intensive English Language Program.

Gilles Street students thrive in a learning environment that is success orientated, supportive and challenging for each student.

GSPS is a part of the Adelaide-Prospect Partnership and is Category 6 of disadvantage.

Current enrolment across the whole school is approximately 410 students.

PURPOSE

This document outlines the agreed vision, approaches and common understandings that underpin the teaching of mathematics and its application into numeracy for students attending Gilles Street Primary School.

The Whole School Agreement ensures a consistent approach and language is used across the site and that all teachers are confident and competent with consistent pedagogy.

RATIONALE

To be numerate is to have the confidence, capacity and positive mindset to apply mathematical knowledge to daily life and real problems.

Staff at Gilles Street Primary School will have high expectations for all students. We believe that all students can make at least one year’s growth in each school year.

We are committed to building the capacity of teachers, so they are able to design high quality learning experiences that engage and challenge all students.

Curriculum

Australian Curriculum: Mathematics is organised around four proficiency strands and three content strands.

Proficiency Strands describe how the content is explored or developed. They are the verbs of mathematics:

- Understanding (knowing why)
- Fluency (knowing how)
- Problem solving (finding out how)
- Reasoning (explaining how)

Content Strands describe what is to be taught, and are grouped as:

- Number and Algebra
- Measurement and Geometry
- Statistics and Probability

Each year level has an Achievement Standard. This summary of the year’s learning describes a ‘C’ for the teacher to make their on balance judgement of A – E grading for each formal reporting period.

The National Numeracy Progressions, describe the progression of skill development required for students to gain mastery in each concept.

The Australian Curriculum: Mathematics – Glossary is the mandated reference point for standard terms and definitions.

Programing

At Gilles Street Primary School we believe that a consistent approach to the teaching of mathematics is crucial to the constant growth of students.

All classroom teachers will plan for:

- 300 minutes of maths lessons per week
- 180 minutes per week focussing on the Number & Algebra strand
- 120 minutes per week focussing on Measurement & Geometry or Statistics & Probability
- Links between the Number & Algebra learning and that of the other strands that occurs each week
- Intentional planning targeting teaching of Problem Solving proficiency strand each week
- One common, strand based, year level summative task completed per term.

(Variations to this planning structure are acceptable after negotiation with a line manager)
Underpinning Philosophy
Understanding of the ‘Big Ideas in Number’ will underpin teaching and learning of mathematics at Gilles Street Primary School. Mastery of these building blocks will result in reduced cognitive load, allowing smoother progression through the Australian Curriculum: Mathematics and increased ability to apply learning to real life scenarios. All staff will be trained in the implementation of this work within their first year at Gilles Street PS.

Monitoring Student Progress
Student progress is monitored by collecting a range of data through different processes which may include:

- Evidence collections – Formative assessment, rubrics, anecdotal data, observations, photographs, checklists
- Summative data to inform teaching & learning goals have been met
- Reporting to parents (interviews term 2, written reports, term 2 & 4)
- Staff to engage with moderation processes to ensure collective judgement and expectations are similar across the school

Supporting Documents
Please see appendices for GSPS ‘I can…’ statements across Proficiency and Content Strands, Year level specific National Numeracy Progressions, planning templates, Big Ideas explanation and resource lists.