

Mary Immaculate Primary School

Curriculum Plan



Mary Immaculate Primary School 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).

Curriculum and learning policy

Vision

A dynamic and caring community, committed to enacting our faith; inspiring, challenging and engaging lifelong learners.

(excellence, integrity, inclusiveness, respect)

Mission

To provide the conditions that enable the full flourishing of all students as they become successful life-long learners, confident and creative individuals, and active and informed members of the community.

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. See <https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/curriculum/foundation-10/Pages/default.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 Mary Immaculate Primary School 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 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

In line with the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers (AITSL), our learning and teaching programs are characterised by our teachers:

1. knowing their students and how they learn
2. knowing the content and how to teach it
3. planning for and implementing effective teaching and learning
4. creating and maintaining supportive and safe learning environments
5. assessing, providing feedback and reporting on student learning
6. engaging in professional learning
7. engaging professionally with colleagues, parents/carers and the community.

Scope

Our school curriculum defines what it is that all students have the opportunity to learn as a result of their schooling at Mary Immaculate Primary School.

At Mary Immaculate Primary School 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 design process, allowing them to make decisions about what they need to know and when.

Implementation

Mary Immaculate Primary School 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.
- To meet the diverse learning needs of our students, the content, underlying philosophy and education goals of the Victorian Curriculum and the 'Foundation Statements' of the 'Horizons of Hope' (Catholic Education Melbourne), form the basis of our planning, teaching, monitoring of student progress, and the assessing and reporting on the learning achievements of each student.
- The students will be supported to develop a Growth Mindset and to be animated learners, as they develop positive learning dispositions through the Habits of Mind which will enable them to be better thinkers and be able to respond appropriately to challenges. This involves actions such as taking responsibility for self and others, being effective thinkers, embracing and managing challenges, persevering and taking risks, being problem solvers and finders, being creative, curious and open-minded, welcoming feedback and setting learning, behavioural and social goals. The students will continue to reflect on their learning within the context of our School Values.

Curriculum content

The school implements the Victorian Curriculum in order to provide students with a comprehensive and cumulative curriculum from Foundation to Year 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 our governing body, Mary Immaculate Primary School will develop strong processes for monitoring student progress and the application of appropriate explicit teaching and intervention strategies.

Mary Immaculate Primary School will also take inspiration from the *Horizons of Hope* education framework. 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 Mary Immaculate Primary School, 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 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
English <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading & Viewing • Speaking & Listening • Grammar & Spelling • Writing 	2 hours daily (total time should not be less than 10 hours weekly on average over the course of a school year and may vary across year levels) 75 minutes per week (15 minutes daily)
Mathematics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number & Algebra • Measurement • Geometry • Statistics & Probability 	1 hour daily (total time should not be less than 5 hours weekly on average over the course of a school year)
Religious Education	2 hours weekly
Health & Physical Education	2.5 hours weekly
Arts	2 hours weekly
Languages - Italian	.75 hours weekly
Humanities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civics & Citizenship • Economics • Geography • History Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science as a Human Endeavour 	2 .75 hours weekly The learning areas of Humanities, Science, Health & Physical Education, and Technology will be taught, ensuring an average of 3 hours weekly over the course of a school year. This is through the focus of the integrated unit of work using an inquiry approach.

Learning Areas	Recommended Time Allocated
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earth Science • Biological Science • Chemical Science • Physical Science <p>Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design & Technology • Digital Technologies 	
TOTAL	25 hours weekly

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 Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) 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 the Pedagogical Framework.

All content is developed using the following documents:

- Mary Immaculate Primary School policies for each of the learning areas
- Mary Immaculate Primary School Religious Education Scope and Sequence: Religious Education Curriculum Framework
- Victorian Curriculum 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
- English Policy
- Mathematics Policy
- Religious Education Policy
- Student Wellbeing Policy
- The Arts Statement
- Capabilities Statement
- Health and Physical Education Statement
- Home Learning Statement
- Humanities Statement
- Integrated Curriculum Statement
- Languages – Italian Statement
- Learning Diversity Statement
- Philosophical Statement
- Library Statement
- Science Statement
- Student Files Statement
- Student Wellbeing Policy
- Swimming Instruction and Water Safety Policy
- Technologies Statement
- Work Programs Statement

(June 2021)