

St Bernadette's Primary School

Curriculum Plan



St Bernadette's 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

St Bernadette's School Community strives to create a faith filled contemporary learning environment.

In communion we celebrate and embrace diversity.

We honour our history and traditions to create a future which enhances and inspires.

God Love Us – Let Us Love God

Mission

Our mission at St Bernadette's Primary School is:

- Our words and actions reflect the lived Catholic faith, history and traditions.
- Every learner is known in all aspects of their learning, their interests and talents.
- Learners experience success and are supported with high expectations.
- All students demonstrate a growth mindset where they are empowered to take ownership and responsibility for their learning and their relationships.
- A learning community that values trust and feedback and celebrates collegiality, collaboration and learning, to grow and improve outcomes.
- Teachers, families and community members partnering to enhance student outcomes in learning and wellbeing.

Purpose

The Learning and Teaching policy at St Bernadette's reflects the practices and procedures at St Bernadette's, ensuring that the school's curriculum plan addresses the needs of all students. The school constantly aims to improve the quality and effectiveness of the learning and teaching practices in the school. This policy aims to ensure a happy and safe learning environment for our students, where children are encouraged to take responsibility and pride in their own work and are supported in their inquiring, exploration and risk taking. Child Safety Guidelines are followed.

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 St Bernadette's 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

At St Bernadette's Primary School we:

- Respect and value each child, for who they are and for what they contribute.
- Structure opportunities for students to develop self-esteem and positive attitudes to learning and to life.
- Praise and acknowledge the efforts of students in class, through school awards and through the display of work.
- Model lifelong learning by being learners ourselves.
- Monitor student needs and provide appropriate support networks for students as they approach different learning situations.
- Plan for learning experiences which cater for the needs of students and account for different learning styles
- Link learning to life experiences.
- Use assessment tools to identify starting points for individual students learning and providing rich learning opportunities to challenge and enhance learning.
- Plan assessment tasks which reflect the achievements of and challenges for students.
- Value the giving and receiving of feedback as an important part of the learning and teaching cycle.
- Use a wholistic approach to curriculum planning and delivery incorporating inquiry learning and a variety of learning and teaching strategies/styles.

Scope

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

At St Bernadette's 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

St Bernadette's Primary School will implement the curriculum by:

- Underpinning the curriculum with the beliefs and values of the Catholic Church and Catholic social teachings.
- Encouraging students to take ownership of their learning
- Promoting high levels of engagement in classrooms.
- Deliberately focussing on continued improvement in literacy and numeracy across all year levels through ongoing assessment and targeted learning and teaching.
- Supporting and challenging students in their learning.
- Providing opportunities for continued growth and improvement through ongoing feedback and goal setting.
- Engaging all members of the community in the learning and teaching process.
- Celebrating achievement and improvement and by acknowledging and addressing challenges
- Promoting parental engagement in learning

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.

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, St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School will develop strong processes for monitoring student progress and the application of appropriate explicit teaching and intervention strategies.

St Bernadette's 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 St Bernadette's 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.

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:

- St Bernadette's Primary School policies for each of the learning areas
- St Bernadette's 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.

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	2.5 hours weekly
Health & Physical Education	2.5 hours weekly
Arts	1 hour 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 • Earth Science • Biological Science • Chemical Science • Physical Science Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design & Technology • Digital Technologies 	2 hours and 15 minutes 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 developed under the St Bernadette’s Catholic Primary School Conceptual Framework.
TOTAL	25 hours weekly

Evaluation

This Policy will be monitored and reviewed by the staff, in accordance with the School Improvement Plan or as required.

School policies/references

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