



# SCIENCE

## POLICY

### **Preamble/Rationale:**

The practice of science is a global activity and part of everyday life. It is important that students are connected to this through their school curriculum. A fundamental goal for science education is to nourish curiosity, wonder and questioning.

### **Purpose:**

- To acquire and use the skills of scientific investigation, reasoning and analysis to ask questions and seek solutions.
- To interpret and communicate scientific ideas effectively.
- To develop scientific attitudes such as flexibility, curiosity, critical reflection, respect for evidence and ethical considerations.
- To acquire scientific skills and conceptual knowledge.
- To develop an appreciation of the need to control variables in the context of 'fair tests' in order to reach justifiable conclusions.
- To appreciate the dynamic role of science in social and technological change.

### **Implementation:**

- All students at our school will study a sequential Science program based upon VELs.
- Science activities should be hands on and should recognise that students construct their own understandings.
- The Science program should help the students work from the concrete and familiar to the abstract and unfamiliar.
- Safety needs to be taught and reinforced throughout the entire Science program.
- Science study for each student will be a minimum of one session per week.
- A budget that provides for the needs of the Science program will be developed and managed by staff.
- A staff member will be allocated the responsibility of coordinating and teaching the school's Science program, including a whole school Family Science Evening.
- The Inquiry Model should be used when planning and implementing the Science Program.

### **Assessment:**

- Assessment in Science using VELs will be ongoing – checklists, anecdotal notes, tests
- Progression points and rubrics will be used.

This policy was ratified by School Council Meeting in 2008

This policy will be reviewed in 2011