

ESSEX HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL **CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK POLICY**

Essex Heights Primary School encourages its students to strive for excellence in all of their endeavours. To achieve this, the school provides sequential teaching and learning programs that deliver a comprehensive, differentiated, broadly-based and inclusive curriculum.

Curriculum covers all arrangements the school makes for students' development and learning. It includes the course content, student activities, teaching approaches, the way in which teachers and classes are organised and decisions on the need for and the use of facilities and resources.

Each year the school will map out its curriculum offerings. It will be in the form of a Curriculum Plan (see **Appendix A**).

1. GUIDELINES

- 1.1** Our school will recognise and respond to diverse student needs when developing its curriculum programs and curriculum plan (see **Appendix A**).
- 1.2** Our school will comply with all DET guidelines about the length of student instruction time required in Victorian schools.
- 1.3** There will be a broad offering of programs to meet the demands of students. Victorian Curriculum will be implemented from Foundation to Year 6 at our school.
- 1.4** Essex Heights Primary School places a high priority on the teaching of Physical and Sport Education, Music, Visual Arts, Social-Emotional Literacy, Indonesian Language and EAL.
- 1.5** School curriculum programs are designed to enhance effective learning.
- 1.6** Preparing young people for the transition into school and into secondary education is a critical element in the primary school program.
- 1.7** Essex Heights Primary School will implement the Framework for Improving Student Outcomes (FISO), the continuous improvement framework for all Victorian government schools.
- 1.8** Teaching and learning programs will be resourced through Program Budgets.
- 1.9** The school will provide adjustments in curriculum planning and provision as advised by DET during remote learning and emergency response situations.

2. PROGRAM

2.1 Our school will provide a variety of programs that will address the specific needs of students in relation to gender, high ability, special learning needs, disabilities and impairments, and students from language backgrounds other than English.

2.2 Our school will identify and cater for the different needs of cohorts of students when developing its curriculum plan.

2.3 Our school when developing its Curriculum Plan will allocate 25 hours of student contact hours per week. (See 1.9)

2.3.1 In specific circumstances, school hours may be varied for student needs (including prep students), teacher needs and emergency circumstances.

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/management/pages/hours.aspx>

2.4 The Leadership Team will determine the curriculum program for the following year, based on student needs and the school's Curriculum Plan to maintain balance and a broad provision of subject choices.

2.4.1 Input will be sought from the relevant staff in the curriculum area when determining programs for the following school year.

2.5 The Victorian Curriculum will be used as a framework for curriculum development and delivery at years Foundation to 6 in accordance with DET policy and guidelines.

2.5.1 Essex Heights Primary School has developed a structured approach to curriculum planning that ensures a shared vision within the school on curriculum development, common documentation and common understanding of whole school curriculum by teachers and parents.

2.5.2 Curriculum planning is informed by interpretation of regularly analysed student data by teachers in their curriculum planning sessions and includes a suite of year level assessments including pre/post-tests, standardised tests, teacher observations and student feedback.

2.6 The use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) will be integrated across the curriculum to support the improvement of teaching and learning outcomes.

2.7 *Foundation* and *Breadth* stages of schooling approaches will continue to be developed and implemented.

2.8 In developing its curriculum plan the school will provide a broad range of educational pathways to ensure improved student outcomes.

2.9 A comprehensive annual Curriculum program budget will be submitted to School Council.

- 2.10** The Leadership Team will meet regularly to track whole school data and identify potential curriculum areas that require focus. Data analysed will include, but is not limited to, NAPLAN, school-based testing, teacher judgments based on learning outcomes in Victorian Curriculum and Student Opinion Surveys. *Compass Analytics* and the *EHPS Data Manager* will be used as the primary whole-school tracking tools.
- 2.11** Student learning outcomes data will be reported in the Annual Report to the School Community provided to the DET. This information is also available on the State Register maintained by the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority and on the school website.

3. LINKS AND APPENDICES (including processes related to this policy)

Links connected with this policy are:

- <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/practice/Pages/curriculum.aspx>
- <http://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>
- <http://curriculumplanning.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>
- <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/practice/Pages/assessment.aspx>
- <http://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/fiso/guidance/fiso-improvement-model>

Appendices which are connected with this policy are:

- Appendix A: Curriculum Plan – including time allocations

4. EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed every three years or more often if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstances.

George Perini

Jennifer Bittner

Principal

School Council President

August 2021

Appendix A

Curriculum Plan – including time allocations

Foundation – Year 6

The curriculum is based on the Victorian Curriculum standards. The timetable is structured on a weekly basis of 2 x 2 x 1-hour blocks.

Foundation to Year 6 (from 2021)	
Domain	Minutes per week
English*	600
Mathematics*	300
Science*	80
Humanities*: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History • Geography • Civics & Citizenship (Levels 3 - 6) • Economics & Business (Levels 5 & 6) 	80
Language* - Indonesian	40
Health*	60
The Arts*: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual Art/ArtSEL • Music • Drama • Dance • Media Arts 	130
Physical Education* including PMP & Sport	150
Technology: Design & Digital Technologies*	60
Assembly*	60
TOTAL	1500

* Includes the Victorian Curriculum Personal and Social Capabilities, Critical and Creative Thinking, Ethical Capabilities, Intercultural Capabilities.