



LEARNING & TEACHING POLICY

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Portfolio: Learning & Teaching

Approved by: Leadership

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COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY AND DUTY OF CARE

The dignity of the human person, who is created in the image and likeness of God, is the foundation of Catholic Social Teaching at Catholic College. This Catholic anthropology leads us to afford all people, but especially children, young people and the most vulnerable, the highest respect. Within this context, Catholic College recognizes its duty of care to students and is committed to providing a safe, supportive and secure environment that promotes respect, care and values diversity.

PURPOSE

The Learning & Teaching Policy is grounded in the beliefs, values and traditions of the school and aims to allow all students to achieve their full potential. The policy aims to ensure all students are exposed to a quality learning environment, underpinned by an enriching, engaging curriculum. Students learn best in a caring, responsive environment that acknowledges every student's ability to learn and which values the importance of individual learning styles. This policy seeks to encourage the development of an effective, holistic learning & teaching program at Catholic College. To create an environment that assists dynamic teaching and powerful student learning.

This policy ensures our College complies with the Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE, VCAL and VET requirements. All key learning areas, including the four capabilities should be given appropriate coverage across the cohorts.

VISION STATEMENT

The Catholic College Vision and Mission supports this policy with the following statements:

- Aims to provide a contemporary and challenging educational environment that fosters relationships to enhance learning for all individuals.
- Develops innovative, creative, engaging, meaningful and flexible curriculum.
- Recognises the importance of appropriate organisational structures in providing the best possible learning.
- Commits to the use of collaboration, feedback and reflective practice to enhance performance.
- Promotes effective and practical ways of continually improving teaching practice.

GRADUATE OUTCOMES

We believe that in pursuing these graduate characteristics, we will encourage the development of the whole person and help support Learning & Teaching at Catholic College.

- Developing and sustaining loving, empathetic and supportive and child safe relationships.
- Serving others with honour, courage and integrity.
- Being creative problem solvers, critical and reflective thinkers and self-directed, lifelong learners.
- Knowing and valuing themselves, having a sense of confidence and belonging.
- Being flexible and resilient with a sense of dignity and self-respect.
- Being environmentally and socially responsible within their local, national and global communities.
- Striving to achieve their best academically.

PROCEDURE

Learning & Teaching

As teachers we believe students learn best when we:

- Take a student-centred approach to learning
- Involve students in curriculum planning and evaluation
- Encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning
- Utilise a range of Learning & Teaching strategies to challenge and stimulate students
- Teach students strategies to become more effective learners
- Encourage critical thinking and questioning
- Create meaningful, relevant learning tasks
- Cater for different learning styles and abilities
- Employ a broad range of assessment strategies
- Ensure learning technologies are used in an integrated way to enhance teaching and learning
- Success is acknowledged both privately and publicly.

The Environment

Each teacher should create an environment where students:

- Feel safe and secure
- Are valued
- Are exposed to formal and informal learning environments
- Are encouraged to take calculated risks
- Receive support
- Have the opportunity to learn
- Feel confident in asking questions
- Can strive for improvement and excellence
- Feel challenged and stimulated
- Regardless of ability or gender, have equal access to learning experiences.

Aims

The following steps will be actively pursued and implemented:

1. The establishment of an ongoing curriculum review process
2. An ongoing Professional Development program
3. Focused Professional Development on key needs at a particular time
4. Continued exploration of different learning styles/pedagogy
5. The utilisation of a range of assessment and teaching strategies.
6. A cyclic review of different domain areas and policies
7. The seeking of regular feedback from students, parents and staff on the quality and effectiveness of learning & teaching at the College.
8. The inclusion of a focused study skills program for all students
9. Emphasis on learning as a key component of all leadership positions in the College.
10. Ongoing development of the curriculum to be inclusive of a range of post-compulsory pathways.

Organisation

- The Deputy Principal Learning, Teaching & Innovation is responsible to the Principal for the effective implementation of the school's Learning & Teaching Policy.
- The Deputy Principal Learning, Teaching & Innovation leads the Learning & Teaching Team * Learning Coaches which meet regularly and are responsible for leadership, review and planning with regard to learning, assessment and reporting.
- These two teams make recommendations for major change or development to the Leadership Team for ratification. Minor changes are part of the everyday work of the teams.

Resources

The resources for learning and teaching within the school are vast. They incorporate the physical structures such as the classrooms, the ICT infrastructure and most importantly the teaching personnel within the school. The Resource Hubs also have many specialist resources on learning and teaching. Learning & Teaching Leaders, Learning Coaches and school documentation (including all policies and procedures) are also key resources.

Budget

- The Deputy Principal Learning, Teaching & Innovation will set an annual budget to support Learning & Teaching.
- Each Learning & Teaching Leader and Learning Coach will set an annual budget to support essential expenditure within the domain.
- The Deputy Principal Learning, Teaching & Innovation, in consultation with the Principal and the Business Manager determines the final budget allocation for each Learning & Teaching Leader and Learning Coach.
- Budget areas in learning and teaching include: general teaching expenditure, excursions, transport, maintenance, computer software, stationery/consumables, professional development, capital expenses and library costs which may include subscriptions and levies, reference texts and AV costs.

RELATED MATERIAL

- CCW Reporting Policy & Student Feedback Guide
- CCW Professional Development Policy
- CCW Disability and Discrimination Policy
- CCW Major Excursions Policy
- CEW Transfer & Enrolment Policy
- Victorian Curriculum F-10
- CCW Learning & Teaching Framework