

Curriculum Plan



St Paul'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 and Mission

Our School Vision

St Paul's School - a welcoming and diverse Catholic community:

United in Faith

Educating our community in our Catholic story and beliefs
Rejoicing in our cultural and multi-faith community
Embracing our partnerships within our parish and wider Church community
Proclaiming Jesus and the Gospel values through word, prayer, celebration and example

Inspiring a Passion for Learning

Creating learning environments that are welcoming, safe and secure
Implementing a curriculum which is accessible, engaging, challenging and rigorous
Providing learning experiences that are student centred, authentic and transforming
Empowering families to be partners in the learning journey

Striving for Excellence

Committing to a culture of high expectations of all
Fostering the wellbeing, dignity, self-esteem and integrity of each person
Recognising and celebrating the talents, abilities and uniqueness of each individual
Providing opportunities that respect and cater for difference

Connecting With and Shaping Our World

Knowing and respecting our stories
Engaging with local and global communities
Living out our commitment as ambassadors of action and social justice
Inspiring hope and a positive vision for the future Christ-centred Catholic education providing excellent, inclusive and contemporary schooling.

Purpose

Quality learning and teaching encourages teachers to cater for a variety of learning styles in order to empower students to become more actively involved in managing their own learning (setting goals, evaluating their progress and enhancing their ability to achieve superior learning outcomes). Processes are in place to support teachers to plan for and provide learning opportunities which improve student learning outcomes.

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 Paul’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 Paul's Primary School:

- The learning environment is supportive and productive.
- The learning environment promotes independence, interdependence and self-motivation.
- Student's needs, backgrounds, perspectives and interests are reflected in the learning program.
- Students are challenged and supported to develop deeper levels of thinking and application.
- Assessment practices are an integral part of learning and teaching.
- Learning connects strongly with communities and practice beyond the classroom.

Scope

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

At St Paul'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 Paul's Primary School will implement the curriculum by:

- Collaboratively discussing and implementing the curriculum and learning strategies in Professional Learning Teams to foster collective efficacy of curriculum outcomes is established across staff.
- Building teacher capacity through Facilitated Planning where curriculum leaders attend weekly planning sessions to ensure the curriculum is comprehensively covered and adapted for all students at their point of need.
- Analysing data during Facilitated Planning and Professional Learning Team meetings to drive student learning and lift student outcomes across all curriculum areas.
- Employing formative and summative assessment practices that reflect curriculum objectives and that are used to direct future learning opportunities.
- Forward planning, use of throughlines and use of curriculum audit documents to ensure curriculum coverage.

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

St Paul’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 Paul’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.

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 	10 hours weekly
Mathematics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number & Algebra • Measurement • Geometry • Statistics & Probability 	4 hours weekly
Religious Education	2 hours 30 mins weekly
Health & Physical Education	2 hours 40 mins weekly
Arts	1 hour 10 mins 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 	2 hours and 30 mins 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 Paul’s Primary School Conceptual Framework.

Learning Areas	Recommended Time Allocated
Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design & Technology Digital Technologies 	
LOTE	40 mins
Miscellaneous (Administration, Prayer, School assembly, Eating time)	1 hour 30 weekly
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:

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

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 Policy
- Civics and Citizenship Policy
- Critical and Creative Thinking Policy
- Curriculum Review
- Design and Technology Policy
- Digital Technologies Policy
- Economics Policy
- English Policy
- Ethical Capabilities Policy
- Geography Policy
- Health and Physical Education Policy
- History Policy
- Internet and Digital Technologies Policy
- Learning and Teaching Policy
- Library Policy
- L.O.T.E Policy
- Mathematics Policy
- Outdoor Education Policy
- Prayer and Liturgy Policy
- Reporting Policy
- Science Policy
- Swimming Policy
- The Arts Policy
- Religious Education Policy