

Corpus Christi Primary School

Curriculum Plan



Corpus Christi 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), where formation and education are based on the principles of Catholic doctrine, and where the teachers are outstanding in true doctrine and uprightness of life.

Curriculum and learning policy

Vision and Mission

We at Corpus Christi, continue the spirit filled legacy of Mary MacKillop within our Catholic Learning Community. We recognise we are an integral part of St Andrew's Parish of Werribee.

Inspired by the courage and tenacity of Mary MacKillop, we recognise that each of us is called to be a living part of the Body of Christ.

Therefore we:

- Live out in word and deed the Gospel values of justice, integrity, respect and dignity
- Celebrate our faith, scripture and tradition
- Provide contemporary learning for all members of our community
- Create an environment that enables each member of the community to find greater meaning in his/her life
- Foster a culture that values the pursuit of excellence.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to improve student learning outcomes through the implementation of Victorian Curriculum F-10 across all year levels in a manner consistent with departmental requirements and locally identified needs.

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 Corpus Christi 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.

At Corpus Christi we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our school.

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 Corpus Christi Primary School:

- Implementation of Victorian Curriculum F -10 across the school will provide all students with a sequential curriculum framework that guides their learning.
- It will also provide measures of learning achievement that allow students, teachers and parents the opportunity to assess student performance against standardised learning outcomes

Scope

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

At Corpus Christi 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

Corpus Christi Primary School will implement the curriculum by:

The school curriculum strategic plan is outlined in the School Improvement Plan and delivered in a four-year cycle in Annual Action Plans. Teachers work from Annual Action Plans to devise a comprehensive learning process and programs to promote learning in each curriculum area.

Classroom teams are allocated one day per fortnight to plan with the support of Learning Leaders to create future learning for all students.

Classroom teachers, supported by Learning and Teaching Leaders, are responsible for collaborating in Learning Communities (Foundation, Junior, Middle and Senior) for planning and implementing curriculum programs.

Programs are recorded in work programs that draw on the Vic Curriculum F-10 to develop term planners, weekly planners and Term Overviews for parents. Evaluation and ongoing assessment is also recorded by teachers using digital assessment tools for consistency and access to all staff members.

The Learning and Teaching Leaders/ team are responsible for overseeing the implementation of curriculum throughout the school.

The school uses an Inquiry Approach to learning. This approach links learning to life experiences and opens to students a perspective of learning that is relational rather than isolated subject content. A number of the learning areas and capabilities are incorporated into this learning approach guided by our *Corpus Christi Planning Guidelines* document which contains throughlines that provide specific information for curriculum content inclusion.

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We understand that the links between learning in different subject areas are important and requires the interaction between Language, Mathematics, the Arts, Humanities, Science and Technology as well as personal development, social interaction, values education and critical analysis and creative thinking.

This model of learning is based on the Jenni Wilson “Inquiry Approach”. Students are challenged to actively participate in a thinking curriculum designed to encourage life-long learning. The approach features Key Questions and concepts, Rich Assessment Tasks and a process of finding out, sorting out, action and reflection to promote the children’s quest to gain understanding. It also allows and enables students to understand and present information and ideas about their learning. Incursions, excursions and guest speakers are an integral part in immersing students into experiences that support their learning and understanding of the specific curriculum area engaged in during an inquiry.

Inquiry Learning Units are planned in line with the Victorian Curriculum. A flexible cycle of units of work has been designed through a study of the curriculum focus statements of each Learning Area and taking into account the interests of the students, global and local events and available resources.

This approach facilitates the possibilities of:

- Engaging students in a broad spectrum of issues
- Helping students to see learning as life and life as learning
- Making connections in learning by interacting with many different curriculum learning areas and capabilities in each unit of discovery
- Encouraging the development of skills and knowledge of processes in students that are required to tackle key questions in each Inquiry unit
- Assessing the knowledge and competencies of students against pre-selected criteria that outlines the expected achievements for each unit.

This approach to curriculum will be reviewed and audited regularly against the Curriculum and evaluations of each inquiry unit completed by teachers at the end of each inquiry.

Corpus Christi Primary School has been designed to meet the standards of contemporary learning facilities. With creative design, open spaces, flowing and interconnecting facilities, spaces for quiet work and others for group collaboration, indoor and outdoor learning spaces and integral technology connectivity capacity the school is well placed to support the type of learning that it offers students.

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, Corpus Christi Primary School will develop strong processes for monitoring student progress and the application of appropriate explicit teaching and intervention strategies.

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Corpus Christi 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 Corpus Christi 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 	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 	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 Corpus Christi Primary School Conceptual Framework.

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Learning Areas	Recommended Time Allocated
Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design & Technology • Digital Technologies 	
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:

- Corpus Christi Primary School policies for each of the learning areas
- Corpus Christi 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

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victorian F-10 Curriculum • Assessment and Reporting Policy • Assessment and Reporting Procedures document • Professional Learning Policy • Learning Diversity Policy • Principal of Inclusion Policy
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- Requirements for Curriculum Provision – Assessment and Reporting Guidelines
- Collection of Data and use of Data to Support Learning: Review of Assessment Practices
- Corpus Christi Minimum Weekly Time Allocation document

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