

St Anthony'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), 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

St Anthony's is an inclusive and vibrant Catholic learning community empowering all to be critical thinkers, compassionate and resilient citizens.

Purpose

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 Anthony'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 Anthony's Primary School:

- we believe that student learning is ongoing, and fundamental to achievement and self-esteem in later life and is the joint responsibility of parents, schools, teachers and school leadership.
- we believe that it is the school's responsibility to provide an education that is conducted in an environment that is supportive, challenging and stimulating and promotes risk-taking. Students need to be engaged in learning that is meaningful and has genuine relevance and value so they are active learners rather than spectators.
- we believe that empowering students through promoting learner autonomy and creativity means students can approach their future with confidence knowing that they are equipped with twenty-first century competencies and skills.

Scope

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

At St Anthony'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 Anthony's will implement the curriculum by:

- Using the Curriculum F-10 to guide planning and learning experiences across all year levels.
- Designing learning experiences that are challenging, engaging and involve practical 'hands on' activities and first hand encounters where possible.
- Providing meaningful professional development to staff in line with our School Improvement Plan.
- Using Learning Intentions and Success Criteria to make learning explicit and allow students to reflect on their learning.
- Providing open ended learning opportunities that cater for the multiple needs and learning styles of students.
- Implementing regular, relevant ongoing assessment of student progress and evaluation of learning programs.
- Providing regular feedback to students and parents about the progress of their learning.
- Developing PLPs for those students deemed to be at risk.
- Providing extension and intervention opportunities for all students according to need.
- Building relationships for learning that make students feel safe and cared for.
- Providing a physical environment that is safe and congenial to the needs of the students and the demands of the curriculum.
- Integrating a range of technologies, across all areas of schooling, to support and enhance student learning.

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

St Anthony'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 Anthony'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.

Sciences (addressed as part of Inquiry units once a year Prep-6; STEM sessions one hour a week for 3 terms a year)

- Humanities (addressed as part of the two year cycle curriculum planning around Inquiry Units Prep - Year 6)
- The Arts (Visual Arts one hour per week Prep- Year 6; Performing Arts/Music one hour per week Prep - Year 6)
- Languages (Italian one hour per week Prep- Year 6)
- Health and Physical Education (Two hours per week Prep-Year 6)
- Information and Communication Technology and Design Technology: (Digital technologies sessions one hour a week for half a year: Design Technology addressed as part of the two year cycle curriculum planning around Inquiry units)
- Social and Emotional Learning - 1 hour per week

Additional Activities - vertical groups, show case, choir,
Senior school interschool sport and other sport days, preparation and planning for vertical groups (1 hour per fortnight), class masses

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)
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 (not including prayer)
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 Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design & Technology • Digital Technologies 	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 St Anthony's Primary School Conceptual Framework.
Social and Emotional Learning	1 hour weekly
TOTAL	25 hours weekly

Additional Activities - vertical groups, show case, choir, class masses.

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

St. Anthony's Primary School Alphington Assessment and Reporting Policy

St. Anthony's Primary School Alphington Assessment and Reporting Procedures

St. Anthony's Primary School Alphington Teaching and Learning Policy