

St Francis Xavier Primary School

Science Policy

Rationale

At St Francis Xavier Primary School, we believe Science provides an opportunity for students to answer interesting and important questions about the biological, physical and technological world. They can experience the joy of scientific discovery and nurture their natural curiosity about the world around them whilst developing critical and creative thinking skills and challenging themselves to identify questions and draw evidence-based conclusions using scientific methods.

(Adapted from: **Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority** – Victorian Curriculum – Foundation-10)

Purpose:

We aim to ensure that students will develop:

- an interest in science, expanding their curiosity and willingness to explore, ask questions about and speculate on the changing world in which they live;
- an understanding of the vision that science provides of the nature of living things, the nature of scientific inquiry and the ability to use a range of scientific inquiry methods;
- an understanding of science as a human endeavour;
- an ability to interpret and communicate scientific understanding and findings to a range of audiences;
- appreciate the dynamic role of science in social and technological change;
- recognise and understand the strengths and limitations of science;
- a solid foundation of knowledge of the biological, chemical, physical, earth and space sciences.

Implementation:

At St Francis Xavier Primary School:

- Science is an essential learning area of the Victorian Curriculum
- All Prep to Year 6 students at our school will work on yearly Scientific Inquiry units based upon the content descriptions contained within the Victorian Curriculum Science learning area and the St Francis Xavier School Inquiry Map
- All teachers use the Inquiry Model to develop and implement Scientific Inquiry units
- Teachers select and use an appropriate Inquiry proforma when planning Inquiry
- Excursions and incursions are incorporated to enhance the students' learning
- We use a range of formal and informal assessment and evaluation strategies for student reporting in science
- Teachers use a range of pre and post assessment strategies to evaluate students learning in Science
- Technologies Curriculum is incorporated in the teaching and learning of Science
- Students participate in a weekly STEM lesson with a Specialised Teacher (Refer to STEM policy)
- Resources for the Scientific Inquiry are provided for from the Learning and Teaching budget

Evaluation:

This policy will be revisited on the odd years (e.g. 2025, 2027 etc.), reviewed as part of the school's review cycle or as changes are made to the Victorian curriculum.