



## LEARNING AND TEACHING POLICY

### Context

Teaching and Learning at St John's is guided by **Our Vision**:

*We at St John's Regional College are a contemporary Catholic community placing at our heart our students and their learning outcomes, through personalised learning and a culture of performance and development.*

We seek to enact a student-centred, inclusive and current curriculum for our students. By enacting our **Learning and Teaching Charter** we are committed to:

- Modelling the Gospel values of Jesus Christ, animated by the charism of St John Baptist De La Salle and the Venerable Nano Nagle.
- Recognising that our students are our priority and at the heart of all we do.
- Enhancing and improving student outcomes through the development of respectful relationships.
- Setting high expectations of our students to achieve success in their learning.
- Knowing our students and their individual differences and differentiating our teaching to personalise student learning.
- Working collaboratively with others to develop and plan engaging curriculum.
- Embracing contemporary learning practices to engage students as critical thinkers and active independent learners, and to develop them spiritually and holistically to be responsible global citizens.
- Providing regular, specific and timely feedback to foster a culture of continual improvement.
- Maintaining excellence in practice, high professional standards and engaging in relevant opportunities for professional growth.

Through enactment of the Charter, learning and teaching will occur which affirms each person's dignity and individuality. The curriculum provides opportunities for students to grow in knowledge and understanding of themselves and the world around them. St John's achieves its Educational Mission by making the values of the Gospel the mainspring of everyday learning and teaching.

Learning and Teaching describes all elements of the curriculum as it is formally and informally arranged for students to access. This policy therefore guides the content delivered in courses, arranged student activities, pedagogical choices and teaching methodologies, and how the timetable and facilities are organised and used to optimise student learning.

### Implementation

The direction and implementation of the curriculum is led by the Deputy Principal – Learning and Teaching in liaison with the Learning Leaders.

The curriculum offered provides students with a diverse engagement with different learning areas from Year 7 to 10, expanding to enable self-selection of desired course directions and subject choices by students in the senior years. To ensure the empowerment of students in their learning, we:

- Reflect current curriculum guidelines in our curriculum delivery (Victorian Curriculum and VCAA Study Program requirements)
- Emphasise Literacy and Numeracy skills in all year levels and subject areas
- Ensure that Religious Education is taught in each year level
- Promote integrated approaches to the explicit teaching of Digital Technologies



## LEARNING AND TEACHING POLICY

- Provide rich assessment tasks which ensure clear directions to students and enable them to demonstrate their learning
- Ensure students have exposure to different learning methods and pedagogical approaches
- Explore independent learning approaches as well as opportunities to collaborate with peers
- Promote valuable learning experiences for each student
- Support different learning styles through a variety of teaching techniques
- Encourage students to develop responsibility for their own learning
- Build confidence in the use of inquiry processes, experimentation and creative activities
- Encourage the acceptance of individual differences
- Take place within an environment in which each person values and respects all others
- Encourage students to strive for academic excellence and personal achievement.
- Implement methods which allow for effective student learning to occur for each individual
- Provide access for all students to all subjects
- Provide suitable resources
- Provide a physical environment conducive to effective learning, which addresses all requirements of Child Safety.
- May provide a personalised pathway which may involve participation in a specialised program catering for their own individual needs.
- Provide guidance in career choice
- Regularly evaluate the curriculum through staff review in Learning Teams under the guidance of Learning Leaders

### **To ensure implementation, the Staff will:**

- Maintain high standards and undertake appropriate professional development
- Ensure implementation of the College Assessment and Reporting Policy
- Recognise the needs of each individual student and cater for these within learning programs, and
- Work collaboratively with colleagues and then reflect on practice, in order to improve curriculum delivery and student learning outcomes.

**Ratified by Advisory Board on 19 February 2019**