



St John's Regional College 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

We at St John are a Contemporary Catholic community providing an inclusive and supportive environment for all members. We place at our heart our students and their learning outcomes, through utilising personalised learning and developing a culture of performance and improvement.

Mission

St John's Regional College is a Catholic co-educational secondary school. It was established by the local parish priests in collaboration with the De La Salle Brothers and the Presentation Sisters. Their vision and work in educating young people in the rich heritage of the Catholic tradition are both enduring and inspiring.

St John's Regional College welcomes and celebrates the diversity of cultures, gifts and talents which enriches the school and marks its unique identity. It values co-education in preparing young people to be active citizens in our wider community.

Staff at St John's Regional College endorse Catholic beliefs and practices and are committed to excellence in teaching. In partnership with parents, staff engage students in learning as a lifelong process. In realising their individual potential, students will be encouraged to develop a sense of responsibility for their own learning.

Students at St John's Regional College will strive for self-worth and respect for others, will act justly, will confront social issues and contribute to community life.

As a faith community, we will nurture each other's growth in the values lived by Jesus Christ.

Our Values:

Faith - St John's Regional College is a faith community centred on Jesus Christ and enlivened by the charisms of the Venerable Nano Nagle and St John Baptist de La Salle. Our motto reminds us that we must constantly "reach for the stars" and in doing so be beacons of light for each other and our world.

Learning - Our students' learning outcomes and their emotional, spiritual, social and physical wellbeing is central to all that we do at St John's Regional College. The College focuses on student centred learning which allows students to develop the skills they need to be well rounded, emotionally mature and engaged learners in the wider community.

Integrity and Service - St John's students are called to serve with personal integrity the College and wider community through their words and actions. All of our students are leaders.

Community - The St John's Community values and nurtures learning, personal responsibility and growth. Our College responds to the need young people have to belong to a community which values them, provides them with opportunities for authentic relationships and challenges them to realise their goals.



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 John's Regional College 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 John's Regional College:

- Student choice is paramount to the structure and offerings of our curriculum
- Each year program builds on the skills and knowledge of the prior year
- Pathways planning becomes more central into the senior years at the College

Scope

Our school curriculum defines what it is that all students have the opportunity to learn as a result of their schooling at St John's Regional College. At St John's Regional College, 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 John's Regional College will implement the curriculum by providing a broad overview of learning areas, and implementing relevant subject and year level-based programs. The curriculum reflects the required curriculum framework for each year level and program.

The curriculum is designed and delivered from whole-school to level planning to implementation of 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 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 John's Regional College will develop strong processes for monitoring student progress and the application of appropriate explicit teaching and intervention strategies.

St John's Regional College 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 John's Regional College, 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.

The table on the following page demonstrates the division of learning areas and time provided for each. All 9 Learning areas are addressed with significant time, with alignment of learning areas aligning in some classroom programs, enabling students to learn how subjects link to each other. To define time, a period is 50 minutes in length and a cycle is 2 weeks.



YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9
<p>Religious Education (6 periods per cycle)</p> <p>STEP: English, Humanities (Geography, History, Economics, Civics & Citizenship), Media Arts (12 periods per cycle)</p> <p>SCIMAT: Science, Mathematics (12 periods per cycle)</p> <p>STEM PBL: Science, Mathematics, Design and Technologies (6 periods per cycle)</p> <p>Human Movement: Health and PE, Dance (6 periods per cycle)</p> <p>Languages: Italian (6 periods per cycle)</p> <p>Healthy Life: Food Technology, Health, Design and Technologies (6 periods per cycle – 1 semester)</p> <p>Learning to Learn: Digital Technologies, Economics and Business, Personal and Social Wellbeing (6 periods per cycle – 1 semester)</p> <p>Artistic Expression: Drama, Music, Visual Arts, Visual Communication Design (6 periods per cycle – 1 semester)</p>	<p>Religious Education (6 periods per cycle)</p> <p>STEP: English, Humanities (Geography, History, Economics, Civics & Citizenship), Media Arts (12 periods per cycle)</p> <p>SCIMAT: Science, Mathematics (12 periods per cycle)</p> <p>STEM PBL: Science, Mathematics, Design and Technologies (6 periods per cycle)</p> <p>Human Movement: Health and PE, Dance (6 periods per cycle)</p> <p>Languages: Italian (6 periods per cycle)</p> <p>Healthy Life: Food Technology, Health, Design and Technologies (6 periods per cycle – 1 semester)</p> <p>Design Technology: Materials and Technologies: design and production processes (6 periods per cycle – 1 semester)</p> <p>Artistic Expression: Drama, Music, Visual Arts, Visual Communication Design (6 periods per cycle – 1 semester)</p>	<p>Religious Education (5 periods a cycle)</p> <p>English (8 periods a cycle)</p> <p>History (6 periods per cycle – 1 semester)</p> <p>Mathematics (8 periods a cycle)</p> <p>Science (5 periods a cycle)</p> <p>Project-Based Learning (PBL) (5 periods a cycle)</p> <p>Health & Physical Education (5 periods a cycle) Students have a choice of: PE Boys or PE Girls or PE Soccer Academy</p> <p><i>Students must choose: 1 from Arts & Engagement, 1 from Communication and 1 from STEM/HOFO. They then can choose any 4 from any area.</i></p> <p>Arts & Engagement Art Dance Drama Media Music Visual Communication Design</p> <p>Communication Commerce Geography Italian (Year)</p> <p>Hospitality Food Food Studies</p> <p>STEM Digital Technology Design Materials Electronics Textiles</p>



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 John's Regional College policies for each of the learning areas
- St John's Regional College 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

Curriculum Guide
VCE and VCAL Handbook