Wales Street Primary School

MATHEMATICS POLICY

Policy No. 1.1

Rationale
Mathematics encompasses all aspects of our lives. Competence in mathematics is integral to successful participation in modern society. Mathematics involves number, measurement, chance and data, structure and working mathematically within a cultural context.

Aims
Through learning mathematics in school students will:
- acquire mathematical skills and knowledge so they can deal confidently and competently with daily life.
- be able to interpret and communicate logical ideas accurately.
- recognise the fundamental importance of mathematics to the functioning of society.
- understand and appreciate the nature of mathematical thinking.
- understand the dynamic role of mathematics in social and technological change.
- use technology appropriately and effectively to support the learning of mathematics and in carrying out mathematical activities in context.
- use mathematics as an analytical tool across the curriculum.
- experience what it is like to think and act as a mathematician through inquiry based mathematics learning.
- use the language and symbols of mathematics to receive and express ideas and information confidently.

Guidelines for Implementation
- All students at our school will study a sequential mathematics course based on the outcomes contained within the VELS that involve practical as well as formal activities.
- All teachers will with their respective teams to develop and implement a joint mathematics course based on VELS for all students.
- Students progress in all strands of mathematics will be reported in half and end of year academic reports as well as reported in the school’s annual report.
- Mathematics study for each student will not be less than five hours per week.
- A budget that provides for the needs of the mathematics program will be developed by staff and resourced by school council.
- A Numeracy Coordinator will be allocated the responsibility of overseeing the implementation of the school’s mathematics program.
- Students’ individual abilities, understandings and learning rates are identified and catered for. Teaching focus will be tailored to individual needs.
- Students will be given adequate opportunities to reinforce and extend their understanding of mathematics by using learning technologies such as computer software and calculators.
- Within the classroom, there will be opportunities for exploration with concrete aids to assist in the development of mathematical skills, concepts and insights into solving problems.
- Classroom programs are supplemented by a range of support structures for those children identified as needing additional assistance to meet the challenges.
of numeracy acquisition including the development of Individual Learning Plans and small group intervention.

**Evaluation:**

Mathematics will be evaluated through ongoing testing in accordance with the school’s annual testing schedule. Assessments include Early Years Numeracy testing, school based testing, anecdotal records, pre and post tests, work samples, self assessment, staff discussions and the monitoring of individual learning plans, at regular intervals.

This policy will be reviewed and evaluated as part of a two year cycle.