



St Kevin's

# The Humanities Policy

## Rationale:

The Humanities provide a framework for students to examine the complex processes that have shaped the modern world and to investigate responses to different challenges including people's interconnections with the environment.

In Civics and Citizenship and Economics and Business, students explore the systems that shape society. Students learn about Australia's role in global systems, and are encouraged to appreciate democratic principles and to contribute as active, informed and responsible citizens.

In History and Geography, students explore the processes that have shaped and which continue to shape different societies and cultures, to appreciate the common humanity shared across time and distance, and to evaluate the ways in which humans have faced and continue to face different challenges. Students learn to question why the world is the way it is, reflect on their relationships with and responsibility for that world and propose actions designed to shape a socially just and sustainable future. The concept of place develops students' curiosity and wonder about the diversity of the world's places, peoples, cultures and environments.

## Aims:

At St Kevin's, the teaching of the Humanities subjects aims to ensure that students develop:

- a lifelong sense of belonging to, and engagement with, civic life as an active and informed citizen in the context of Australia as a secular democratic nation with a dynamic, multicultural and multi-faith society
- understanding of the ways society allocates limited resources to satisfy needs and wants, and how they participate in the economy as consumers, workers and producers
- knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the values, principles, institutions and practices of Australia's system of democratic government and law, and the role of the citizen in Australian government and society
- the capacities and dispositions to participate in the civic life of their nation at a local, regional and global level

- the capacity to be informed, responsible and active citizens who can contribute to the development of a world that is environmentally and economically sustainable, and socially just
- enterprising behaviours and capabilities that are transferable into life, work and business opportunities and contribute to the development and prosperity of individuals and society
- a sense of wonder, curiosity and respect for places, people, cultures and environments throughout the world
- knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the past and the forces that shape societies, including Australian society
- understanding and use of historical concepts and skills, including sequencing chronology, using historical sources as evidence, identifying continuity and change, analysing cause and effect and determining historical significance
- a deep geographical knowledge of their own locality, Australia, the Asia region and the world
- the capacity to be competent, critical and creative users of geographical methods and skills

### Implementation:

- The Humanities program at St Kevin’s uses the framework of the Victorian Curriculum and includes the strands of Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business, Geography and History
- The subject areas in the Humanities are taught throughout the two year cycle of Inquiry units
- Students are encouraged to actively contribute to the school and local communities through student leadership programs and action plans
- Students are enabled to take action about social justice issues
- The concept of sustainability is taught in an ongoing manner and explores the capacity of the environment to continue to support our lives and the lives of other living creatures into the future
- Excursions, camp experiences, multimedia presentations, guest speakers and research are employed to encourage students to pose their own questions, develop skills, insights and knowledge, and explore different perspectives and viewpoints
- Student progress is reported against the Victorian Curriculum learning standards for the Humanities.

### Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s four-year review cycle.

Reviewed by SDC: July 2018	Reviewed by Staff: July 2018	Ratified by Ed Board: July 2018 (or TBA)	Next review: July 2022
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