



St Kevin's

Science Policy

Rationale:

The Science curriculum provides opportunities for students to develop an understanding of important scientific concepts and processes, the data collection, research and recording practices used to develop scientific knowledge, the contribution of science to our culture and society, and its applications in our lives. The curriculum supports students to develop critical and creative thinking skills and challenge themselves to identify questions, apply new knowledge, explain science phenomena and draw evidence-based conclusions using scientific methods. Developing 'scientific literacy' enhances the capability of students to investigate the world around them and the way it has changed as a result of human activity.

Aims:

The Science curriculum aims to ensure that students develop:

- an interest in science as a means of expanding their curiosity and willingness to explore, ask questions about and speculate on the changing world in which they live
- an understanding of the nature of scientific inquiry and the ability to use a range of scientific inquiry methods, including questioning, planning and conducting experiments and investigations based on ethical principles, collecting and analysing data, evaluating results, and drawing critical, evidence-based conclusion
- an ability to solve problems and make informed, evidence-based decisions about current and future applications of science while taking into account ethical and social implications of decisions
- the ability to effectively interpret, evaluate and communicate scientific ideas and conclusions
- a foundation of knowledge of the biological, chemical, physical, Earth and space sciences.

Implementation:

- Our Science program at St Kevin’s uses the framework of the Victorian Curriculum and includes the strands of Science Understanding and Science Inquiry Skills.

Strands	Science Understanding	Science Inquiry Skills
Sub-strands	<i>Science as a human endeavour</i>	<i>Questioning and predicting</i>
	<i>Biological sciences</i>	<i>Planning and conducting</i>
	<i>Chemical sciences</i>	<i>Recording and processing</i>
	<i>Earth and space sciences</i>	<i>Analysing and evaluating</i>
	<i>Physical sciences</i>	<i>Communicating</i>

- The Science program is annually enabled through our cycle of Inquiry units.
- Students are encouraged to recognise the role of Science in our daily lives. Our ongoing Sustainability and Resource Smart projects, excursions, Gardening and Robotics clubs also engage students in learning scientific skills.
- Teachers engage students in Science by using a variety of teaching and learning strategies that include ‘hands on’ experiences and eLearning opportunities.
- Science Inquiry units are planned according to student knowledge and experience and promote high level thinking skills.
- Student progress is reported against the Victorian Curriculum learning standards for Science.

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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