



MacKillop College

Policy: Learning and Teaching

Introduction

Reverence of the sacred dignity of each learner provides a foundation of pedagogy in a Catholic school. Through pedagogical choices, educators seek to develop deep learning, powerful teaching and to create animated learners who are inspired by the Holy Spirit to act for justice and strive for a common goal (Horizons of Hope: Pedagogy in a Catholic School, 2017).

At MacKillop College we endeavour to support, enable and engage all learners for the contemporary world, through Learning and Teaching programs that seek the integration of faith, knowledge, life-skills and cultural awareness.

The learning and teaching focus at MacKillop College is concerned with researching, implementing and monitoring learning, and utilising pedagogy that benefits students and those working with them. Evidence-based decisions assist to inform these practices.

Principles

MacKillop College is committed to:

- learning and teaching being designed to ensure faithfulness to the College vision and mission, emphasising relationships within the learning community
- teaching that reflects what is valued and important by specifying knowledge, skills and behaviours in an inclusive and accessible curriculum
- learning that focuses on student agency, collaboration, critical and creative thinking, problem solving, communication and reflection
- providing choice for students to pursue interests and flexible pathways to future studies and employment
- recognising the value of rich and diverse experiences, perspectives and interests of learners
- enabling teachers to professionally develop skills and expertise in pedagogy and knowledge.

Objectives

MacKillop College is committed to:

- developing awareness of a variety of contemporary learning methods and assessment techniques
- building knowledge and skills for lifelong learners
- providing opportunities for individual support and extension
- developing, implementing and evaluating relevant curriculum
- promoting open communication regarding effective contemporary learning and teaching
- being receptive to contemporary educational direction concerning faith, life skills and cultural awareness
- establishing a culture of appraisal in developing teaching practice
- using multiple data sources to inform and influence student learning
- promoting a collaborative environment to improve student outcomes
- providing rich and powerful learning environments for both staff and students.

Implementation

i) Principal commitment

The Principal is responsible for ensuring that the objectives of this policy are integrated into practice.

ii) Staff commitment

All staff are responsible for:

- delivering a contemporary approach to learning and teaching
- individually and collaboratively evaluating their objectives and future directions regarding learning and teaching.

This policy works in conjunction with the following policies, procedures and guidelines:

- Curriculum Policy
- Assessment and Feedback Policy
- CEM Contemporary Learning and Teaching Framework
- VCAA documentation
- MacKillop Learning and Teaching Statements
- AITSL, Australian Institution for Teaching and School Leadership, <http://www.aitsl.edu.au/>
- VIT, Victorian Institute of Teaching, <http://www.vit.vic.edu.au/>

Rory Kennedy
(Principal)

Date: 2020