

Mathematics

MATHEMATICS POLICY

RATIONALE:

Mathematics is a key learning area that is vital and is evident in all daily activities. It provides a means to solve real problems in many different everyday activities.

AIMS:

- Demonstrate useful mathematical and numeracy skills for successful functioning in society.
- See mathematical connections and be able to apply mathematical concepts, skills and processes in posing and solving mathematical problems.
- Be able to work mathematically by applying mathematical skills to everyday situations.
- Solve practical problems with mathematics and work towards learning the skills needed for industry and work based problems.
- Be confident in one's personal knowledge of mathematics.

CONTENT:

The content of Wedge Park Primary School's Mathematics Policy will be based on Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS).

Time Allocation:

Numeracy to be a daily occurrence and is to be integrated into other curriculum areas where appropriate.

- Prep to Grade 6 (Minimum 1 hour daily).

IMPLEMENTATION:

- Teachers are to follow the School Maths Planners based on VELs Levels 1-5, (which will be revised every year).
- Teachers are to use the benchmark assessment schedule to develop meaningful programs for all students.
- Teachers will ensure that all children have access to a balanced mathematical program by planning and consulting as a grade level.
- Consolidation and practice of fundamental skills and routines daily (eg number facts, times tables).
- Appropriate practical work on reasoning and strategies, including the application of mathematics in everyday real life experiences.
- The use of 'concrete' materials in all year levels wherever possible.
- Encourage students to take risks with the use of open-ended tasks.
- Embed the language of NAPLAN into the Numeracy program.
- Use Multi Media to enhance the use of Mathematics with interactive math's programs.
- Set up and implement the Maths Action Plan every year.
- The Mathematics Leader is to assist the curriculum committee in the execution of their role.
- Teacher development and assistance will be available in the form of relevant curriculum materials, shared planning and decision making practices, professional development and through the role of the mathematics curriculum committee and maths leader.
- The Maths Leader in conjunction with the Maths committee to organise information about numeracy.

Resources Used:

- VELS Document
- Program Budget allocation
- Maths Resources located in managers room for each grade level
- Teacher Resource Tubs
- Multi Media programs
- Open ended tasks
- Numeracy resources and Literacy resources related to Mathematics
- Nelson Maths Programs
- Maths Tracks Program (Rigby)
- Targeting Maths Program (Pascal Press)
- Maths Plus (VELS edition Grades 3-6)
- Library resources related to Mathematics
- Maths Coaches
- Mathletics (an interactive maths programs available to all students at school and at home)

Each collection of basic classroom materials will be allocated to class teachers at the beginning of the year in a resource tub. It is the teachers' responsibility to return all the non-consumable items in a "fair and reasonable condition".

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING:

The major purpose of assessment is to improve student learning. The methods of assessment depend on the content being covered and the style of teaching and learning being used.

What is assessed?

- Understanding of concepts, skill development, attitudes and processes.

A variety of assessment strategies will be used to determine student progress:

- Check lists
- Tests
- Anecdotal notes
- Work samples
- Observations
- Portfolios
- NAPLAN – Grades 3 & 5
- Reporting & Assessment of progression points
- Student self assessment
- Open ended assessment tasks
- Benchmark testing (to be implemented in February, May and October/November)

- Numeracy Interview Prep – Grade 4 (where appropriate for 5-6)
- Mathematics tests
- Diagnostic testing (eg Maths Plus)

EVALUATION:

- A review of the Mathematics Policy every year to ensure so that it is meeting the aims of the policy. Reviews will be based on NAPLAN tests, CASES Data, Benchmark Tests, Numeracy Interview and anecdotal records of teachers
- A review of the Program Budgets will occur every year to ensure that resources match the needs of the Mathematics Program