

## **JAMES COOK PRIMARY SCHOOL** **CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK POLICY**



Help for non-English speakers  
If you need help to understand the information in this policy  
please contact the school office on 9700 2601

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this framework is to outline James Cook Primary School's organisation, implementation and review of curriculum and teaching practices and to ensure that, taken as a whole, all eight learning areas are substantially addressed, unless an exemption applies.

The framework shows, at a high level, how the school will deliver its curriculum, how the curriculum and teaching practice will be reviewed, how we assess student learning, how we record and monitor student performance, and when and how we report to parents.

This curriculum framework should be read alongside our whole school, curriculum area, year level and unit / lesson curriculum plans.

### **OVERVIEW**

James Cook Primary School provides all students with a planned and structured curriculum to equip them with the knowledge, skills and attributes needed to complete their schooling and to make a successful transition from school to work, training, or further education.

James Cook Primary School is committed to offering a comprehensive curriculum based on the [Victorian Curriculum F-10](#). The key points in this framework, and in line with the [F-10 Revised Curriculum Planning and Reporting Guidelines](#), are a commitment to:

- A defined curriculum content is the basis for student learning
- Curriculum planning that is based on two-year bands of schooling rather than each year level
- Developing and publishing a separate whole-school curriculum plan that documents our teaching and learning program
- Reporting student learning against the achievement standards in the curriculum
- Reporting student learning to students and parents in line with the Department's [Reporting Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#) policy.
- Complying with Departmental policies relating to curriculum provision, including:
  - [Physical and Sport Education — Delivery Outcomes](#)
  - [Sexuality and Consent Education](#)
  - [Holocaust Education – Delivery Requirements](#)

James Cook Primary School is committed to providing a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for all students, staff and members of our community. Our school recognises the importance of the partnership between our school and parents and carers to support student learning, engagement and wellbeing. We share a commitment to, and a responsibility for, creating an inclusive and safe school environment for our students. Our students comprise a diverse multicultural and socioeconomic demographic, 60% of whom are EAL/D students. We deliver personalised learning with a relentless focus on Literacy and Numeracy, Intervention/Extension Programs for Reading and Mathematics. A 'Growth Mindset' culture nurtures resilient, intrinsically motivated learners, underpinned by our School-Wide Positive Behaviour Matrix of Expectations. We provide specialist programs that enhance the learning experiences for our students in Visual Art, Music, Mandarin, and Physical Education.

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

James Cook Primary School implements its curriculum with English and Maths being delivered as a priority. Specialist Programs including Visual Art, Music, Mandarin, and Physical Education are delivered each week.

Science is delivered each week via the classroom teacher. Term three has a focus on Performing Arts. At James Cook Primary School, class time is structured into a weekly timetable, with 5 hours of learning per day, broken into 60 minute sessions.

Further information on how our school implements the curriculum, including the learning areas provided at each year level/band of schooling, and the capabilities that are developed by students across these learning areas and the approximate time allocations for each learning area, is provided in our whole school, curriculum area, year level and unit / lesson curriculum plans.

### **Language provision**

James Cook Primary School will deliver Mandarin as a Language, based on languages delivered by local secondary schools.

### **Pedagogy**

Professional Learning Communities (PLC) teams at James Cook Primary School embody collaboration and evidence-based teaching practices, with a rigorous focus on improving student learning. To ensure the individual learning needs of students are met, staff collaboratively plan, sharing best practices. Peer observations and coaching with a focus on high impact teaching strategies is an expectation and part of the school's improvement agenda.

### **Assessment**

James Cook Primary School assesses student progress in line with the Department's [Assessment of Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#) policy.

Students at James Cook Primary School will have multiple and varied opportunities to demonstrate learning and achievement. Teachers use assessment tasks that cover multiple curriculum levels to ensure that evidence of learning and growth is captured for every student.

- Teachers at James Cook Primary School use a combination of formative assessment for learning (to focus feedback and guide future learning) and summative assessment of learning (to determine what the student has learned at the end of a sequence of learning), alongside student self-assessment and reflection.
- Assessment is used in an ongoing way, to guide future lessons and learning, as well as to keep students and parents informed of student progress.
- Teachers will use a variety of assessment strategies to gather evidence about student achievement. The agreed assessment processes and tasks are documented in the Subject Unit Designs and Learning Sequences. The assessments may include, but are not limited to, tests and assignments, projects, portfolios, performances, discussions or student-teacher conferences.
- Assessment tasks are developed to support students to show their knowledge, skills and understandings and will include clear instructions, relevant supporting documents (scaffolds, planning documents, etc) and allow sufficient time for completion. Teachers will make modifications to the task to cater for students with additional learning needs.
- James Cook Primary School will develop Individual Education Plans (IEPs) for students who are part of the Program for Students with a Disability (PSD), Koorie students and students in 'Out of Home' care, in consultation with students, parents and where appropriate, with outside agencies.
- Teachers will assess the achievements of students with disabilities and impairments in the context of the Victorian Curriculum and the 'Towards Foundation Level Victorian Curriculum' where applicable.
- The English language proficiency of English as Additional Language EAL students will be assessed using the Victorian Curriculum F-10 EAL.
- Where possible, staff will participate in cross marking of assessment tasks (moderation) involving assessment rubrics and work samples so that staff can apply consistent judgements of student progress against Victorian Curriculum Standards across the school.

### **Reporting**

James Cook Primary School reports student progress to parents in line with the Department's [Reporting Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#) policy. In addition, James Cook Primary School ensures that there is

continuous sharing of assessment information formally and informally with parents/carers throughout the term/semester, including through twice-annual formal reporting.

At James Cook Primary School parent teacher conferences will be held twice a year. This will give parents the opportunity to discuss their child's report with teachers. If parents wish to discuss student progress at any other time throughout the year, you are asked to make an appointment via the office.

- James Cook Primary School will report directly against the Victorian [Curriculum F-10 achievement standards](#) or, if reporting on students for whom English is an additional language, the Victorian [Curriculum F-10 EAL achievement standards](#).
- Both student achievement and progress will be included in the report.
- An age-related five-point scale, where the quality of a student's achievement against what is 'expected' for students of that year level at the time of reporting, will be used for reporting against the achievement standards in English, Mathematics and Science (where applicable).
- Opportunities will be provided for parents/carers and students to discuss the school report with teachers and/or school leaders.

*Parent-teacher interviews, conducted twice-yearly, enable the opportunity to discuss the students' progress and how they can continue to be supported at home. Interpreting services will be made available where required.*

### **CURRICULUM AND TEACHING PRACTICE REVIEW**

School curriculum and teaching practice is reviewed against the [Framework for Improving of Student Outcomes \(FISO 2.0\)](#). FISO and the FISO improvement cycle help identify focus areas for improvement and to evaluate the impact of introduced initiatives.

#### **Review of school curriculum**

James Cook Primary School determines the curriculum program for each year, based on student demand and the needs of the school's Curriculum Plan to maintain balance and a broad provision of subject choices and specialist programs in consultation with the staff via the Executive and Consultative Committees.

#### **Review of teaching practice**

James Cook Primary School reviews teaching practice via:

- Professional Learning Communities, which link the learning needs of students with the professional learning and practice of teachers and provide an opportunity for teachers to collaboratively evaluate the effect of high impact teaching strategies; and
- the Performance Development cycle, which provides an opportunity to provide feedback to teaching staff on their performance to support ongoing learning and development, with a focus on how student learning can be improved through improving teaching practice.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

- Policy and Advisory Library:
  - [Curriculum Programs Foundation to 10](#)
  - [Framework for Improving Student Outcomes \(FISO 2.0\)](#)
  - [Assessment of Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#)
  - [Digital Learning in Schools](#)
  - [Students with Disability](#)
  - [Koorie Education](#)
  - [Languages Education](#)
  - [Physical and Sport Education — Delivery Requirements](#)
  - [Holocaust Education](#)
  - [Reporting Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#)

- [Sexuality and Consent Education](#)
- [School Hours \(including variation to hours\)](#)
- This policy should be read alongside:
  - whole school curriculum plan
  - teaching and learning program for each learning area and capability
  - teaching and learning program for each year level
  - unit plans/sequence of lessons.]

**POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Policy last reviewed	Dec 2022
Approved by	Anne Burgess - Principal
Next scheduled review date	Dec 2025