



TEACHING POLICY



Rationale:

St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School commits to providing a safe and nurturing culture for all children and young people in Catholic schools and will comply with the Ministerial Order No. 870-Child Safe Standards - Managing the risk of child abuse in schools.

St Gregory the Great school is called to serve the children and families of St Gregory the Great Parish and wider community. We recognise that core elements of this service are Teaching and Learning.

“The Religious dimension is an essential and pervasive element of the educational mission of a Catholic School”. (Ref) As a Catholic school we acknowledge our responsibility to hold and teach the beliefs and practices of the Catholic Church. We also acknowledge that parents are the primary educators of their children and that we must engage with parents in our teaching.

Student learning is enhanced by quality teaching therefore teachers must ensure their knowledge of pedagogy, skills and commitment are of the highest standard.

Aim:

At St Gregory the Great school we will aim to:

- Ensure our knowledge of the Catholic Faith is sound and broad and our teaching in this area is relevant to our students in their contemporary world.
- Have a strong knowledge across all areas of the curriculum and be aware of current methodologies for delivering inspiring and innovative teaching practices.
- Develop a culture of continuous and rigorous professional learning where Religious Education, English, Mathematics and other curriculum areas are interwoven to provide a range of rich and authentic contexts that support personalised learning.
- Engage with parents to provide teaching which will lead to the best learning experiences for our children.

Implementation:

- We will implement a Religious Education curriculum based on the beliefs and practices of our Catholic faith and will deliver the Religious Education curriculum in partnership with parents as the primary educators of their children.
- We will recognise the importance of being strong models in this area of faith development as we present the face of Christ to our students. As Teresa of Avila reminds us ‘Christ has no body but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours’.
- Teachers will engage with parents as partners in the education of their children.
- The Leadership of St Gregory’s school will acknowledge the importance of a professional learning culture and implement policies and programs to ensure teachers’ continuous improvement
- Teachers will engage in continuous professional learning related to the development of knowledge and skills in all curriculum areas as appropriate. This professional learning will include contemporary methodologies relevant to students of the 21st century.
- Teachers will provide personalised learning, programs and differentiated activities relative to the specific needs of their students and cater for differences in their learning styles, interests, perspectives and experiences.



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- Data analysis will be used by teachers to evaluate program effectiveness and student achievement. This evaluation will lead to modification and amendments of teaching content and practice to ensure ongoing student improvement
- Partnerships will be formed with agencies, organisations and members of the wider community, where appropriate, to provide diverse learning opportunities for students.
- Learning spaces will be used to inspire a variety of creative, productive and efficient learning experiences.
- We will incorporate contemporary teaching practices and professional learning to strategically contribute to whole school improvement.
- We will provide consistent procedures, structures and availability of resources to support high quality learning and teaching.

Evaluation:

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

Date of next review	Term 1 2016
Developed by	St. Gregory's Staff and Education Board
Date of review	Term 4 2016