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|  | **Nicholson Primary School** |  |
| Curriculum Framework | | |

# Purpose

The purpose of this framework is to outline Nicholson 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 of student performance, and when and how we report to parents.

This curriculum framework should be read alongside our whole school, curriculum plans.

# overview

Nicholson 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.

Nicholson Primary School is committed to offering a comprehensive curriculum based on the [Victorian Curriculum F-10](https://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/). The key points in this framework, and in line with the [F–10 Revised Curriculum Planning and Reporting Guidelines](https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Documents/viccurric/RevisedF-10CurriculumPlanningReportingGuidelines.pdf), 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](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/reporting-student-achievement/policy) policy.
* Complying with Departmental policies relating to curriculum provision, including:
  + [Physical and Sport Education — Delivery Outcomes](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/physical-and-sport-education-delivery-requirements/policy)
  + [Languages Education](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/languages-education/policy)

Nicholson Primary School is committed to lifelong learning through an inclusive, supportive, and nurturing community where diversity is valued and celebrated. Our innovative curriculum and culture of excellence create a stimulating environment that engages and challenges students to achieve personal success and make meaningful contributions to society.

We strive for excellence in all endeavors and are dedicated to providing a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for all students, staff, and members of our community. We recognise the vital partnership between school, parents, and carers in supporting student learning, engagement, and wellbeing. Together, we share a commitment and responsibility to create a safe and inclusive school for every student.

# Implementation

Nicholson Primary School implements its curriculum program to provide students with a comprehensive, engaging, and inclusive educational experience that fosters the development of core competencies of Literacy and Numeracy and specialist knowledge in Visual Arts, Health and Physical Education, Science, Music]. The program is designed to support students in achieving deep understanding, critical thinking skills, and practical application of knowledge, while promoting creativity, collaboration, and lifelong learning.

This program is aligned with curriculum standards and caters to diverse learning needs, ensuring that all students have access to meaningful and challenging learning opportunities.

Through explicit teaching, differentiation, summative and formative assessment, the program aims to empower students to become confident, responsible, and informed individuals ready to contribute positively to their communities and the wider world.

At Nicholson Primary School, class time is structured into a weekly timetable, with 6 hours of learning per day, broken into 2 90 minute and one 120 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, and year level curriculum plans. Language provision

Nicholson Primary School currently has an exemption to teaching a language program.

## Pedagogy

The pedagogical approach at Nicholson Primary School In alignment with FISO 2.0, our school’s pedagogical approach ensures that all students are taught and supported to learn through evidence-based, high-impact teaching strategies (HITS). Teachers across the school will implement a consistent set of common instructional practices, including explicit teaching, structured lessons, formative assessment, and feedback. These practices are underpinned by a clear understanding of student learning needs, informed by data and aligned with the Victorian Teaching and Learning Model.

**Assessment**

Nicholson Primary School assesses student progress in line with the Department’s [Assessment of Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/assessment-student-achievement/policy) policy.

Students at Nicholson 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 Nicholson 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 Whole School Assessment Schedule. 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.*
* Nicholson Primary School will develop Individual Education Plans (IEPs) for students who are part of the Program for Students with a Disability (PSD), Disability Inclusion Program, 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 applicable.
* 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

Nicholson Primary School reports student progress to parents in line with the Department’s [Reporting Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/reporting-student-achievement/policy) policy. In addition, Nicholson 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 Nicholson Primary School progress reports are issued to parents in both terms 2 and 4. Parent/Teacher interviews are conducted in terms 1 and 2 where parents are invited to discuss their child’s progress by making an appointment with their teacher.

The progress report will be in a written format easy for parents/carers to understand and will be accessible in digital form with the option to translate text from English to another language, to cater to our school community.

* Nicholson Primary School  will report directly against the Victorian [Curriculum F-10 achievement standards](https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/curriculum/foundation-10/Pages/default.aspx?Redirect=2).
* 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).
* Nicholson Primary School will use either a learning goals scale or a learning dimensions scale for other areas of the curriculum.
* 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)](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/fiso/policy). FISO and the FISO improvement cycle help identify focus areas for improvement and to evaluate the impact of introduced initiatives.

### Review of school curriculum

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| Layer of review/planning | Process and data used  [Outline how this level of planning works in the school and what data or tools are used to inform the review] | Responsibility | Timeframe  [Frequency and completion timeframe] |
| Whole school | Collaborative process with all teaching staff. Review when new initiatives are introduced through DET.  Annually during staffing profiles for the coming year. | All teaching staff lead by Principal | Annual/ as required |
| Curriculum Areas | As above | All teaching staff lead by Principal | End of semesters |
| Year levels | School based pre & post testing, NAPLAN and other summative data |  |  |
| Units and lessons | Ongoing by teaching staff reflective of student co-hort needs, summative and formative assessments of students | Classroom teacher | ongoing |

### Review of teaching practice

* 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.

# COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our staff in the following ways:

* Provided to staff at induction and included in staff handbook/manual
* Discussed at staff meetings/briefings as required

# FURTHER INFORMATION and resources

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies on the Department’s Policy and Advisory Library (PAL):

* [Curriculum Programs Foundation to 10](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/curriculum-programs/policy)
* [Framework for Improving Student Outcomes (FISO 2.0)](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/fiso/policy)

* [Assessment of Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/assessment-student-achievement/policy)
* [Digital Learning in Schools](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/digital-learning/policy)
* [Students with Disability](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/students-disability/policy)
* [Koorie Education](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/koorie-education/policy)
* [Languages Education](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/languages-education/policy)
* [Physical and Sport Education — Delivery Requirements](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/physical-and-sport-education-delivery-requirements/policy)
* [Holocaust Education](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/holocaust-education-delivery-requirements/policy)
* [Reporting Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/reporting-student-achievement/policy)
* [Sexuality and Consent Education](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/sexuality-education/policy)
* [School Hours (including variation to hours)](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/school-hours/policy)

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

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| Policy last reviewed | August 2025 |
| Approved by | Principal |
| Next scheduled review date | Before August 2029 |