



CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK POLICY

BLACKBURN LAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Florence Street Blackburn 3130

PURPOSE

At Blackburn Lake Primary School our school motto of “learning together” underpins the belief that our staff, students and parents all work together to help every student in our community reach their full potential. We take great care to provide an educational program that balances academic, social and emotional growth for all students in our inclusive, supportive and nurturing community.

The learning environment at Blackburn Lake Primary School engages and challenges students to strive for personal success and to make positive contributions to our community. Our curriculum presents students with the opportunity to develop deep understandings on a range of concepts throughout their school lives. Our teachers are committed to nurturing and developing the ability of each child through carefully planned and innovative teaching programs. 21st Century learning skills and behaviours, critical and creative thinking, problem solving, technology and self-reflection all play a key role in developing our students and setting them up for success as they move through school and beyond.

At Blackburn Lake Primary School we access and select a wide range of suitable educational resources, set homework that enhances classroom learning and undertake a range of student assessment and reporting activities to support student learning.

SCOPE

Schools use a range of curriculum options, including the Victorian Curriculum, to develop and provide education programs that are meaningful for students. Curriculum covers all the arrangements the school makes for students’ development and learning. It includes the course content, student activities, teaching approaches, the way in which teachers and classes are organised and decisions on the need for and the use of facilities and resources.

At Blackburn Lake Primary School our curriculum provides students the opportunity to develop:

- a solid foundation in knowledge, understanding, skills and values on which further learning and adult life can be built
- deep knowledge, understanding, skills and values that will enable advanced learning and an ability to create new ideas and translate them into practical applications
- general capabilities that underpin flexible and analytical thinking, a capacity to work with others and an ability to move across subject disciplines to develop new expertise.

POLICY

Blackburn Lake Primary School is committed to implement a dynamic curriculum program that:

- is outcome focussed;
- is engaging and relevant and enables students to develop deep levels of knowledge, processes and skills for life-long learning;
- is differentiated in approaches to teaching that cater for the needs of students with a range of interests, abilities, skills, and motivation;
- provides opportunities for students to think, reflect and become independent, resourceful and adaptable learners;
- enables students to interact with other students and the wider community;
- is compliant with Department of Education and Training (DET) policies and based on the Victorian Curriculum. Refer to: <https://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>

IMPLEMENTATION

Blackburn Lake Primary School map's out its curriculum plan yearly. All students from Foundation to Year 6 are provided with access to all Victorian Curriculum learning areas, capabilities and cross-curriculum priorities through our daily, weekly, term and annual planning. Extensive documentation includes curriculum mapping, curriculum statements, assessment schedules, reporting statements, yearly and term overviews, unit plans and weekly planners.

The following table provides the time tabled allocation for the Victorian Curriculum learning domains at Blackburn Lake Primary School.

Curriculum Plan – including time allocations				
Domain	Minutes per week			
	<u>Foundation</u>	<u>Years 1-2</u>	<u>Years 3-4</u>	<u>Years 5-6</u>
Disciplined Based Learning - English	650	650	600	600
Disciplined Based Learning - Maths	300	300	300	300
Disciplined Based Learning - Science - The Humanities	120	120	120	120
Disciplined Based Learning – Arts - Visual Art/Music	100	100	100	100
Disciplined Based Learning – Arts – choir	NA	NA	Lunchtime	Lunchtime
Disciplined Based Learning - Languages – Italian	50	50	50	50
Physical, Personal & Social Learning - PE/Health	50	50	50	50
Physical, Personal & Social Learning – Interschool sport	NA	NA	NA	50
Physical, Personal & Social Learning – PMP	50	NA	NA	NA
Physical, Personal & Social Learning- Civics and Citizenship Circle time	50	50	50	50

Physical, Personal and Social Learning - Personal/Interpersonal development – Pro Social Programs (Buddies/Bounceback) - Leadership	50	50	50	100
Interdisciplinary Learning – ICT, Communication, Technology, Thinking	50	100	100	Embedded
STEAM	NA	NA	50	50
Other – School assembly	30	30	30	30
TOTAL	1500 min per week	1500 min per week	1500 min per week	1500 min per week

Learning areas	Capabilities
<p>The Arts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dance • Drama • Media Arts • Music • Visual Arts • Visual Communication Design <p>English</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English • English as an Additional Language (EAL) <p>Health and Physical Education</p> <p>The Humanities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civics and Citizenship • Economics and Business • Geography • History <p>Languages</p> <p>Mathematics</p> <p>Science</p> <p>Technologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and Technologies • Digital Technologies 	<p>Critical and Creative Thinking</p> <p>Ethical</p> <p>Intercultural</p> <p>Personal and Social</p>

English

- English learning should encompass the modes of Reading and Viewing, Writing and Speaking and Listening as outlined in Victorian Curriculum.

Mathematics

- Mathematics teaching should encompass the areas of Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability as outlined in Victorian Curriculum.

Health and Physical Education

In accordance with DET policy, Blackburn Lake Primary School will mandate the following times to Physical Education:

- F-2: 50 minute specialist session each week; Foundation additional 30 minutes per week as
- PMP.3-6: 50 minute specialist session each week; with 5/6 students receiving an additional 50 minute timetabled physical activity session.
- The school will participate in local sport events summer sport, winter sport, athletics and cross country.
- The swimming program will run once per year for each year level.
- The Physical Education program will be supplemented by outside sporting associations that may run clinics in Physical Education sessions to support the development of specific sporting skills.
- The school will integrate Health Education, Life Education and Drug Education into the curriculum, in accordance with DET policy. Other health related topics that the school will cover include Healthy Eating, Student Wellbeing (e.g. Habits of Mind, School Values). For more information see:

Science

- Science learning is integrated into the teaching and learning curriculum at Blackburn Lake Primary School through topic focussed units of study.

The Humanities

- Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business, Geography and History will be integrated into the curriculum through topic focussed units of study.

Languages

- According to DET policy, schools must provide tuition in languages from Foundation to Year 10 by a suitably qualified teacher and report student achievement from Level 4 onwards.
- At Blackburn Lake Primary School the Language is Italian.

Information and Communications Technologies

- At Blackburn Lake Primary School it is a priority to include technologies across the whole school curriculum.
- In the Victorian Curriculum, the technologies includes Design and Technology and Digital Technologies.
- The technologies provide a framework for students to learn how to use technologies to create innovative solutions that meet current and future needs. Students are encouraged to make decisions about the development and use of technologies, considering the impacts of technological

change and how technologies may contribute to a sustainable future. The curriculum provides practical opportunities for students to be users, designers and producers of new technologies.

- In Design and Technology, students use design thinking and technologies to generate and produce designed solutions. In Digital Technology, students use computational thinking and information systems to analyse, design and develop digital solutions.
- Each class will be timetabled a weekly 50 minute session in our Digitech lab to support student learning of Digital Technologies.

Students with Disabilities

- The Department of Education and Training and Blackburn Lake Primary School are committed to delivering an inclusive education system that ensures all students, including students with disabilities, have access to a quality education that meets their diverse needs.
- Blackburn Lake Primary School will liaise with DET to provide suitable programs and resources to support the delivery of high quality schooling for students with disabilities.

Guidelines

- The Principal has the overall responsibility for the implementation of curriculum at the school. Aspects of this role can be delegated to other staff members and curriculum leaders who will work in conjunction with the principal in developing curriculum delivery and programs.
- This policy works in conjunction with the Homework Policy.
- The curriculum taught at Blackburn Lake Primary School will encompass all the areas in The Victorian Curriculum.
- The school will ensure that it has a comprehensive budget to support curriculum programs. Budget requests will be formulated by program leaders prior to the next school year. These will be compiled by the Principal and discussed in the Finance Subcommittee meeting. Indicative budgets must be approved by School Council prior to the school year. Program Leaders are strongly encouraged to expend curriculum budgets in first and second terms of the school year.
- The Blackburn Lake Primary School Strategic Plan is the school's statement to its community about what it stands for and intends to do, over the next four years, to improve student outcomes. It defines what the school values most and sets out the school's goals and targets, key strategies for improvement and its resourcing priorities.
- The Blackburn Lake Primary School Annual Implementation Plan outlines one-year goals that are steps towards achieving the broader targets set in the Strategic Plan. It also provides a reference point for monitoring the school's progress in meeting the goals and targets set in its Strategic Plan.
- Each term, level teams will produce a curriculum planning document detailing the learning focuses of the term. Weekly Professional Learning Team meetings will have a focus on student learning data and planning in order to provide differentiated approaches to teaching that cater for the needs of students with a range of interests, abilities, skills, and motivation. This will include references to the Victorian Curriculum.
- Curriculum and Professional Learning Leaders will ensure the Victorian Curriculum scope and sequence and curriculum coverage is monitored across the school. Strategic teams and professional learning, teaching and learning teams are responsible for core curriculum development and delivery.

- The school has developed a structured approach to curriculum planning that ensures a shared vision within the school on curriculum development, common documentation and common understandings of the whole school curricular.
- The teaching of literacy and numeracy will be an integral component in all curriculum planning and delivery.
- The teaching of Science will be an integral component in curriculum planning and delivery.
- The teaching of the Humanities will be an integral component in curriculum planning and delivery.
- Learning about the cross-curriculum priorities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, Asia and Australia's engagement with Asia and Sustainability is embedded in the learning areas of the Victorian Curriculum F–10.
- The school will have a range of specialist programs to deliver various curriculum programs such as LOTE, Physical Education, Performing Arts and Visual Arts. These will be offered depending on school/DET priorities, access to qualified teaching staff, and timetable provisions.
- Blackburn Lake Primary School's curriculum will incorporate a range of thinking curriculum tools such as 'Habits of Mind', 'Debono's Thinking Hats', 'Bloom's Taxonomy' and 'Gardner's Multiple Intelligences'.
- A range of DET programs will support curriculum delivery in the school. These may include English as an Additional Language (EAL), Reading Recovery program, Literacy Intervention (Toe-by-Toe), Numeracy Intervention (Quicksmart Maths) Health Education, Drug Education, Gifted Education, and the Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD).
- A range of teaching resources will be accessed when developing curriculum programs. The school will ensure that teaching and learning resources balance the need to provide challenging and engaging learning programs for students. Teaching and learning resources include any spoken, written or visual text or activity used or conducted by schools such as text books, novels, films, plays, radio programs, multimedia, digital learning resources including video, audio, text, animations and images, lectures, speeches and performances. Teaching resources can be commercial products or those accessed on the DET website FUSE.
- A comprehensive assessment schedule is in place to support assessment of student learning.
- The school will offer excursions and/or incursions to complement the curriculum. Other experiences, such as camps, sporting programs and leadership courses will also be offered.
- Special school events and days will be celebrated at the school to enhance curriculum programs. For example: Education Week, Book Week.

Program Evaluation and Review

Strategic teams will meet regularly (at least twice per term) to track whole school data and identify potential curriculum areas that require focus.

Professional learning teams will meet weekly to track level data and identify potential curriculum areas that require focus. Data analysed will be informed by formative and summative assessments and may include, NAPLAN, Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT), Essential Assessment, Running Records, Benchmark school based testing, teacher judgments based on learning outcomes in the Victorian Curriculum. Tools used will include Googledocs and SPA.

Student learning outcome data will be reported in the Annual Report to the School Community provided to the DET, and also available on the State Register maintained by the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority and on the school website.

REFERENCES

Links to DET School Policy & Advisory Guide:

- [Curriculum](#)
- [Using Digital Technologies to Support Learning and Teaching](#)
- [Student Wellbeing and Learning](#)
- [Students with Disabilities](#)
- [Koorie Education](#)

Related policies:

- Blackburn Lake Primary School Homework Policy

EVALUATION

This policy was last updated in October 2020 and is scheduled for review in October 2023.