The Arts

Rationale

The Arts (Performing Arts and Visual Arts) are practised and valued in our complex and diverse society as important outlets for the communication of ideas, feelings and beliefs and as major sources of intellectual, physical, spiritual and emotional development, understanding and enjoyment. Comprehensive and sequential learning experiences in the Arts during schooling provide individuals with necessary skills, understandings and confidence to participate fully in the Arts throughout their lives.

Policy Statement

Through an Arts program students:
- develop their intellectual, imaginative and expressive potential
- develop skills, techniques and a knowledge of processes as a basis for personal expression
- create, perform and present art works
- develop critical skills and an appreciation of aesthetics
- develop understanding of how the Arts evolve within particular social, cultural and historical contexts
- enjoy participating in the processes of creating, presenting and responding

Implementation

- The Arts Curriculum will be developed in line with the requirements of the VELS (Victorian Essential Learning Standards)
- An environment that is creative, stimulating, caring and supportive will be fostered to enable each student to reach his or her maximum potential
- Arts experiences of each student will be built upon by providing appropriate teaching activities
- Students will be exposed to a variety of art forms by visiting artists
- Students will develop an appreciation and understanding of how artists express their feelings, ideas and beliefs
- Students will be given opportunities to develop skills in using the language associated with the various aspects of the arts
- A range of opportunities for the performance and exhibition of student work will be provided
- Learning technologies will be used to support the program where possible
- Students will be encouraged to learn from each other in cooperative situations
- Opportunities to further develop talent will be provided within the school setting for students with specific talents in the arts
- Students will be encouraged to pursue arts activities beyond the school setting
- The Arts program will involve regular focussed assessment activities

- *VELS* documents will be used as a framework for planning teaching and learning activities and in the assessment and reporting of student achievement.
- All students will receive regular, timetabled class lessons in Visual Arts and Performing Arts. These are continuous, sequential experiences provided by specialist staff.
- The Arts program will provide activities that take into account the students’ individual differences, interests and abilities.
• Opportunities will be given for students to express and communicate their ideas, feelings and understandings, using a range of artistic forms, media and skills.

• Directed and undirected experiences that stimulate creative, imaginative and innovative thoughts and actions will be provided.

• The program will provide opportunities for students to question, analyse and discuss their own works and the works of others from different genres and cultures.

• Students’ abilities to discriminate, select, rationalise, judge and solve problems will be cultivated.

• Students will be challenged to progress and extend their present level of artistic experiences, knowledge and skills.

• The Arts will be promoted as an integrated part of the whole school program.

• The specialists will, where practical, work with classroom teachers to provide creative support for their integrated learning programs

• Where possible ICT technologies will be used within the arts curriculum

• To further enhance and encourage individual creativity, extra curricular activities such as Stagestruck, Production, Choir, Bands, Artists In Schools, Graduation Pieces, Art Academy and Wakakirri or other new initiatives will be offered where possible at CHPS

• Where opportunities arise for school involvement in wider community events, students will be given the opportunity to participate in activities such as the Art Show, State Schools Spectacular, Shopping Centre performances and eisteddfods.

• Students will be given the opportunity to develop leadership skills through the Art and Music Captain leadership roles.

Evaluation
Feedback through surveys from the School community will be used to improve the program
Staff feedback will be used as part of the program budget process

REVIEW
This policy will be reviewed every 3 years as part of the school’s cyclic process