

## The Arts

### Policy Statement

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Arts program at Croydon Hills Primary School is part of the Discipline based learning strand of the *Australian and Victorian Education Learning Standards (AusVELS)*, and later the Australian Curriculum as it is progressively developed.

It spans the disciplines of Art, Dance, Media, Music and Visual Communication.

It has two dimensions:

*Making* focuses on ideas, skills, techniques, processes, performances and presentations

*Responding* focuses upon context, interpreting and responding, criticism and aesthetics

### Rationale

The Arts are unique, expressive, creative and communicative forms that engage students in critical and creative thinking, and help them understand themselves and their world. The Arts encourage the development of skills and the exploration of technologies, forms and processes. They fuel the exploration of ideas and allow students to create and critically explore visual culture, performances in contemporary and traditional genres, and works that involve the fusion of traditional forms with digital media. Learning in the Arts allows students to communicate their perceptions, observations and understanding of structures, functions and concepts drawn from other domains. It nurtures imagination, problem solving and creativity, essential to our well-being.

The Arts program will:

- 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 making, presenting and responding

### Implementation

- *AusVELS/Australian Curriculum* documents will be used as a framework for planning teaching and learning activities and in the assessment and reporting of student achievement. The Arts will be promoted as an integrated part of the whole school program.

Through an Arts program, students will:

- develop in line with the requirements of the AusVELS and the Australian Curriculum
  - work in an environment that is creative, stimulating, caring and supportive enabling each student to reach their maximum potential
  - be exposed to a range of opportunities for the performance and exhibition of their work
  - utilise learning technologies to support the program where possible
  - be encouraged to learn from each other in cooperative situations
  - have additional opportunities provided within the school setting for those with specific Arts interests
  - be encouraged to pursue Arts activities beyond the school setting where practical
  - be involved in regular focused assessment activities
-

- receive regular, timetabled class lessons in The Arts. These will be continuous, sequential experiences provided by specialist staff.
- be provided with activities that take into account their individual differences, interests and abilities, including extra curriculum activities where appropriate.
- be given opportunities to express and communicate their ideas, feelings and understandings, using a range of artistic forms, media and skills.
- undertake directed and undirected experiences that stimulate creative, imaginative and innovative thoughts and actions.
- develop abilities to discriminate, select, rationalise, judge and solve problems.
- be challenged to progress and extend their present level of artistic experiences, knowledge and skills.

## **Evaluation and Review**

This policy is to be reviewed every three years, or following referral by School Council.