

# St. John the Baptist Parish School

# MATHEMATICS POLICY

## **Rationale**

Mathematics is a powerful means of communication. It is present in all aspects of life, crossing cultural and linguistic boundaries. It helps explain and predict everyday events by giving a precise, quantitative means of making sense of, patterning and ordering our world.

Mathematics is concerned with number, measurement, space, chance and data and using mathematical reasoning and strategies.

It has the potential to enhance an individual's participation in society and it plays a fundamental role in enabling cultural, social and technological advances in our world. It also has the potential to empower individuals as critical citizens in contemporary society.

Our program and policy is based on the Victorian Curriculum.

## **Aims:**

At St. John the Baptist Primary School students will:

- Build an understanding of the role of mathematics in everyday life
- Develop confidence in their personal knowledge of mathematics
- Acquire and demonstrate useful mathematical and numeracy skills and to be empowered through this knowledge to function and participate in society
- See mathematical connections and apply mathematical concepts, skills and processes in posing and solving mathematical problems
- Develop the ability to articulate and justify mathematical thinking
- Access and apply technology appropriately and effectively to support the learning of mathematics
- Develop knowledge and skills in using mathematics that provides for further study and future employment

**At St John the Baptist primary school we will endeavour to:**

- Provide students with a wide variety of experiences
- Promote informed risk taking by offering an environment that is stimulating, motivating, non-threatening and encouraging

- Promote positive attitudes within each mathematical experience
- Ensure individual student's needs are met through planning, providing Individual Education Plans for students where necessary
- Provide experiences that cater for individual learning styles
- Provide adequate time to practise processes and skills learnt
- Vary teaching strategies to include individual, small group and whole group foci
- Use a range of materials and resources and ensure that access to these is available to all students
- Ensure that open ended activities are provided to challenge students
- Provide ongoing professional development for staff
- Keep parents informed of programs and student progress
- Use data collected from assessments and work samples to target teaching at a student's specific needs
- Provide time for students to share their learning and reflect on what they have learnt

## **Procedures**

### **Program Implementation**

At St John the Baptist Primary School:

- Weekly / Unit Planning Proformas are to be consistent within each year level and to be stored in a teacher's work program.
- Term Planners are to be consistent within year level and to be displayed in a teachers work program
- Yearly Overviews are to be consistent across the whole school and in line with the schools scope and sequence.

Assessment is based on the Victorian Curriculum and Mathematical key understandings. Assessment data provides a rich data tool to guide planning for individual students needs and evaluate the areas of need within the Mathematics curriculum area. There are a variety of contexts under which assessment takes place; through oral and written activities, pre and post testing, NAPLAN (Yr 3&5), anecdotal notes and through student self-evaluation and reflection. All these methods of assessing give teachers an informed knowledge of where the student is at in their learning of Mathematics.

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