SCIENCE POLICY

Rationale:
Science education contributes to developing scientifically and technologically literate citizens who will be able to make informed decisions about their lifestyle, their environment and the kind of society in which they wish to live. They will be able to see the connections between science and people, note the relevance of science and technology to past achievements and current and future development and be aware of the impact of science and technology on society, the individual and the environment.

Aims:
Through learning science students will:
- Acquire scientific skills and conceptual knowledge.
- Acquire and use the skills of scientific investigation, reasoning and analysis to ask questions and seek solutions.
- Develop scientific attributes such as flexibility, curiosity, critical reflection, respect for evidence and ethical considerations.
- Recognise and understand the strengths and limitations of science.
- Be able to interpret and communicate scientific ideas effectively.
- Appreciate the dynamic role of science in social and technological change.

Implementation:
- The Science domain is an essential component of the Discipline-based Learning Strand of the Victorian Essential Learning Standards.
- All students at our school will study a sequential Science course based upon the learning focus statements contained within the Victorian Essential Learning Standards.
- All teachers are required to contribute to the development and implementation of a viable and guaranteed Science course for all students, and to implement student needs based lessons using agreed planning templates and lesson structures.
- Student’s individual abilities must be measured at the commencement of each unit of work, and learning opportunities must be provided that cater for the identified needs of each student.
- Student progress in Science will be reported in half and end of year academic reports, as well as reported in the school’s annual report.
- Science activities that reflect the topics being studied at school, and are appropriate to each child’s ability, will form a component of each student’s homework regime.
- A budget that provides for the needs of the Science program will be developed by staff and resourced by school council.
- A staff member will be allocated the responsibility of coordinating the school’s Science program.

Evaluation:
This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle.