

# Croydon Community School & OPTIONS

## Teaching and Learning Policy



### PURPOSE

To ensure that optimum learning and teaching occurs in all levels of the school across all areas of Victorian Curriculum in line with the Principles of Learning and Teaching.

To provide teachers with a consistent, whole school approach to best teaching practices.

To ensure the goals stated in the School Strategic Plan and Annual Implementation Plan are achieved.

To ensure that staff and the community understand the philosophical underpinning for programs and activities at Croydon Community School & OPTIONS.

To ensure the school complies with DET policies and guidelines.

### SCOPE

The school learning and teaching philosophy underpins and guides our curriculum (what children learn), pedagogy (how they learn), assessment (where they are up to in their learning) and reporting (the feedback we give to children s and their families on learning progress and what they need to learn next).

This policy is intended for School Leadership and teaching staff.

### DEFINITION

Learning is the process of gaining information, understandings, skills and values that lead to change and enable individuals to apply their knowledge to new contexts. Effective learning leads to change, development and the desire to learn more.

Teaching is engaging with students through positive relationships, helping students experience and interpret the world, and creating learning experiences which develop skills, knowledge, understanding, values, ideas and feelings.

### POLICY

The school will strive to create a vibrant local learning community.

We will ensure that learning experiences recognise, value and build on children's diverse backgrounds and experiences.

Improving children's learning will be at the core of our work. We will ensure that every child is challenged and supported to meet their potential, no matter what their stage on the learning journey, based on a deep understanding of their individual learning profile and the next steps they require.

Equity and inclusion will be paramount - providing quality learning opportunities for all children, with a particular emphasis on ensuring that the most vulnerable and disadvantaged are effectively engaged.

We will empower and protect our children who are vital and active participants in the school by involving them as appropriate when making decisions, especially about matters that directly affect them. We will listen to their views and respect what they have to say.

We will promote diversity and tolerance, and people from all walks of life and cultural backgrounds are welcome. In particular we will:

- promote the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal children (if applicable)
- promote the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds
- ensure that children with a disability are safe and can participate equally in all aspects of school life

High expectations are non-negotiable.

We will foster a culture of accountability within the local community.

Performance expectations will be clear and consistent with open and transparent assessment.

Programs will be based on our school values. Actions will be measured against these values.

Pedagogy will be based on contemporary educational practices.

Teachers will deliver a program based on explicit instruction that scaffolds learning for children.

Staff will be provided with a range of professional learning opportunities to further enhance their capacity to improve learning outcomes.

As part of our succession planning, leaders and prospective leaders will have opportunities to enhance their leadership potential.

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Reference:

School Improvement Framework

[www.education.vic.gov.au/school/Principals/spag/governance/Pages/accountability.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/Principals/spag/governance/Pages/accountability.aspx)

Please refer also to the school's:

- Assessment, Student Policy
- Children at Risk Policy
- Curriculum Framework Policy
- Data Analysis Policy
- Framework for Improving Student Outcomes (FISO) Policy
- Performance and Development Policy
- Reporting Student Progress and Achievement to Parents Policy
- Vision, Mission and Values Policy

## REVIEW CYCLE

This policy, first developed in this format in May 2019 and will be reviewed annually or if guidelines change (no specific current DET A-Z Index reference).