

CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the school on 8311 5200 and ask for the relevant Student Coordinators who will organise an interpreter.

PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department's and Sunshine College policy requirements relating to the course content, student activities, teaching approaches, the way in which teachers and classes are organised. It also explains decisions on use of facilities, resources, and resource development in relation to the delivery of the curriculum at Sunshine College.

SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and all teaching staff including CRTS, tutors and Education Support staff employed in a classroom capacity at Sunshine College.

RATIONALE

Sunshine College is committed to developing lifelong learners. We do this by providing an inclusive, supportive, and fostering community in which all students are provided with an innovative and stimulating learning environment that engages and challenges them to achieve their personal best.

Sunshine College knows that students learn best when they are provided with highly effective teachers, quality resources and valuable learning opportunities and we know that learning occurs in a variety of contexts and experiences.

Sunshine College has developed this Curriculum Framework Policy in consultation with the School Council to support student learning and wellbeing by:

- providing a range of programs that address the needs of students in relation to gender, special learning needs, disabilities, impairments, and students from language backgrounds other than English
- providing sequential teaching and learning programs that align with DET policies and procedures which deliver a comprehensive and inclusive curriculum for all students
- supporting staff to work collaboratively to create an evidence-based curriculum which is differentiated and specifies the agreed pedagogical practices
- providing a learning environment which provides opportunities for all staff to learn and improve together
- deploying resources strategically to best support teaching and learning across the college
- fostering good lifelong learning and study habits
- supporting learning partnerships with parents/carers

DEFINITIONS

Curriculum is defined as the common set of knowledge and skills required by students for life-long learning, social development, and active and informed citizenship (www.acara.edu.au, 2022).

POLICY

At Sunshine College all curricula set by teachers will be:

- differentiated
- purposeful
- curriculum-aligned
- appropriate to students' skill level and/or age
- designed to help students develop as independent learners
- monitored by the teacher

Sunshine College recognises and responds to diverse student needs and skills when developing its curriculum plan and offers a broad range of curricular programs to meet these needs. The curriculum at Sunshine College is designed to enhance effective learning and prepare young people for the transition from school into further education and careers.

SHARED EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Developing lifelong learners is a shared responsibility between school leadership, teachers, students, and their parents/carers.

Responsibilities and expectations for **leaders at Sunshine College** is to:

- guide the school's curriculum program based on staff input, community consultation and the future directions of the college.
- ensure the curriculum and pedagogical practices of Sunshine College are reviewed and evaluated in line with regular policy review programs and as part of a cycle of planning, implementation, and evaluation, aligning with the School Strategic Plan, Annual Implementation Plan, and DET guidelines including the Framework for Improving Student Outcomes.
- develop a whole-school curriculum plan, which articulates how appropriate time is allocated across learning areas and how the curriculum is organised

Responsibilities and expectations for **teachers at Sunshine College** are to:

- work collaboratively to design and deliver differentiated lessons which are curriculum-aligned and appropriate to the student's skill level and/or age
- offer opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning
- maintain a markbook which records and monitors student progress, growth and skill acquisition and use this data to inform future teaching and learning
- formally report student growth, achievement, and progress to parents/carers at least twice per school year for each student enrolled at the school
- are required to undertake regular professional learning in order to maintain their registration

Responsibilities and expectations for **students** are:

- speaking with their classroom teacher if they have concerns over their learning
- discussing work expectations with their parents/carers
- accepting responsibility for the completion of their tasks within set time frames
- following up on comments made by teachers and seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities, and part-time employment (for older students).

Responsibilities and expectations for **parents/carers** are:

- regularly checking messages from the school on Compass for information about learning,
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on academic pursuits and recreational, family, and cultural activities
- talking to teachers and school leaders about any concerns they have about their child's learning

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Sunshine College understands that students have different learning strengths, preferences and interests and may approach learning activities and homework differently. If parents/carers are concerned their child may not understand the assigned learning tasks, we encourage parents/carers to speak to their child's teacher.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Discussed at student forums
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	June 2022
Consultation	This policy was developed in consultation with Sunshine College Learning Specialists June 2022
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	June 2026