



Beechworth Primary School

Be ...

Respectful, Safe, Persistent, Caring ... Always!

CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the School Office.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this framework is to outline Beechworth Primary School's organisation, implementation and review of curriculum and teaching practices and to ensure that, taken as a whole, all eight learning areas are substantially addressed, unless an exemption applies.

The framework shows, at a high level, how the school will deliver its curriculum, how the curriculum and teaching practice will be reviewed, how we assess student learning, how we record and monitor student performance, and when and how we report to parents.

This curriculum framework should be read alongside our whole school instructional models and curriculum plans shared on the school Google Drive.

OVERVIEW

Beechworth Primary School provides all students with a planned and structured curriculum to equip them with the knowledge, skills and attributes needed to complete their schooling and to make a successful transition from school to work, training, or further education.

Beechworth Primary School is committed to offering a comprehensive curriculum based on the [Victorian Curriculum F-10](#). The key points in this framework, and in line with the [F-10 Revised Curriculum Planning and Reporting Guidelines](#), are a commitment to:

- A defined curriculum content is the basis for student learning
- Curriculum planning that is based on two-year bands of schooling rather than each year level
- Developing and publishing a separate whole-school curriculum plan that documents our teaching and learning program
- Reporting student learning against the achievement standards in the curriculum
- Reporting student learning to students and parents in line with the Department's [Reporting Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#) policy.
- Complying with Departmental policies relating to curriculum provision, including:
 - [Physical and Sport Education — Delivery Outcomes](#)
 - [Sexuality and Consent Education](#)

Beechworth Primary School is a student-centred school. We respect the voices and views of our students. Our students are encouraged to make sense of the world around them by being adventurous when acquiring knowledge, joyful in their pursuit of learning and excited to be a part of our school community. We strive to provide a nurturing and challenging learning environment that

empowers students to reach their personal best, both academically and socially. Beechworth Primary School's vision is to empower all students to be respectful, persistent and caring learners in a safe and connected community.

At Beechworth Primary School our 21st century curriculum presents students with the opportunity to develop deep understandings on a range of concepts throughout their school lives. Our broad curriculum is planned and taught sequentially and allows students to have some ownership in all aspects of their learning. It is designed to develop thinking and social skills, foster engagement with the wider community and include use of a wide variety of technology to assist in student learning. To support the delivery of the curriculum at our school we access and select a wide range of suitable educational resources, encourage home reading that enhances classroom learning and undertake a range of student assessment and reporting activities.

IMPLEMENTATION

Beechworth Primary School implements its curriculum for all year levels each week; English (10 hours per week), Mathematics (5 hours per week), Social & Emotional Learning (SEL), PE, and 3 specialist subjects, French, Art, & STEM. Classes from Year 1 to Year 6 engage in weekly Inquiry lessons on a two year rotating cycle. These Inquiry subjects include; Year 1-6 Humanities, Geography; Year 5 & 6 Economics and Business, and Civics & Citizenship. At Beechworth Primary School, class time is structured into a weekly timetable, with 5 hours of learning per day, broken into 5 x one hour sessions.

Further information on how our school implements the curriculum, including the learning areas provided at each year level of schooling, and the capabilities that are developed by students across these learning areas and the approximate time allocations for each learning area, is provided in our whole school curriculum planning documents.

Language provision

Beechworth Primary School delivers French as a Language, giving students the opportunity to continue this language at Beechworth Secondary College.

Pedagogy

The pedagogical approach at Beechworth Primary School for Literacy is through the gradual release teaching model with explicit teaching of phonemic awareness, phonics, grammar, reading, spelling and writing. In Mathematics, we encourage and guide our students to explore mathematical concepts and processes through problem solving and open-ended tasks. Students develop and trial strategies to solve appropriately challenging tasks. Our classroom teachers use open ended questioning, explicit teaching, and mathematical modelling to support student growth and confidence.

Assessment

Beechworth Primary School assesses student progress in line with the Department's [Assessment of Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#) policy.

Students at Beechworth Primary School will have multiple and varied opportunities to demonstrate learning and achievement. Teachers use assessment tasks that cover multiple curriculum levels to ensure that evidence of learning and growth is captured for every student.

Assessment, reporting and evaluation practice is part of effective teaching and learning, and school operation. A comprehensive approach to assessment, reporting and evaluation, promotes

improvement in student learning opportunities and learning outcomes, improves teaching direction and better informs parents/guardians.

Teachers at Beechworth Primary School use a combination of formative assessment for learning (to focus feedback and guide future learning) and summative assessment of learning (to determine what the student has learned at the end of a sequence of learning), alongside student self-assessment and reflection.

- Assessment is used in an ongoing way, to guide future lessons and learning, as well as to keep students and parents informed of student progress.
- Teachers will use a variety of assessment strategies to gather evidence about student progress and points of need. The agreed assessment processes and tasks are documented in the BPS Assessment Schedule. The assessments may include, but are not limited to, online assessments, rubrics, work samples, ongoing formative assessment tasks and student-teacher conferences.
- Assessment tasks are developed to support students to show their knowledge, skills and understandings and will include clear instructions, relevant supporting documents (scaffolds, planning documents, etc) and allow sufficient time for completion. Teachers will make modifications to the task to cater for students with additional learning needs.
- Years 3 and 5 students will be involved in National testing in English and Mathematics (NAPLAN). Parents/guardians of students will receive a copy of the results.
- Beechworth Primary School will develop Individual Education Plans (IEPs) for students who are part of the Program for Students with a Disability (PSD) and Disability Inclusion Profile (DIP), Koorie students and students in 'Out of Home' care, in consultation with students, parents and where appropriate, with outside agencies.
- Teachers will assess the achievements of students with disabilities and impairments in the context of the Victorian Curriculum and the 'Towards Foundation Level Victorian Curriculum' where applicable.
- The English language proficiency of English as Additional Language EAL students will be assessed using the Victorian Curriculum F-10 EAL.
- Where possible, staff will participate in cross marking of assessment tasks (moderation) involving assessment rubrics and work samples so that staff can apply consistent judgements of student progress against Victorian Curriculum Standards across the school.
- Staff will maintain and update the Beechworth Primary Student Analytics at the end of Semester 1 and the end of Semester 2 on Compass. Essential Assessments and VCOP trackers will be used inline with the BPS Assessment Schedule.

Reporting

Beechworth Primary School reports student progress to parents in line with the Department's [Reporting Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#) policy. In addition, Beechworth Primary School ensures that there is continuous sharing of assessment information formally and informally with parents/carers throughout the semester, including through twice-annual formal reporting.

The report will be in a written format easy for parents/carers to understand and will be accessible in digital form with the option to translate text from English to another language, to cater to our school community.

- Beechworth Primary School will report directly against the Victorian [Curriculum F-10 achievement standards](#) or, if reporting on students for whom English is an additional language, the Victorian [Curriculum F-10 EAL achievement standards](#).
- Both student achievement and progress will be included in the report.
- An age-related five-point scale, where the quality of a student’s achievement against what is ‘expected’ for students of that year level at the time of reporting, will be used for reporting against the achievement standards in English, Mathematics and Science (where applicable).
- Beechworth Primary School will use either a learning goals scale or a learning dimensions scale for other areas of the curriculum.
- Opportunities will be provided for parents/carers and students to discuss the school report with teachers and/or school leaders.

Parent-teacher interviews, conducted in Term 1 and Term 3, enable the opportunity to discuss the students’ progress and how they can continue to be supported at home. Interpreting services will be made available where required.

CURRICULUM AND TEACHING PRACTICE REVIEW

School curriculum and teaching practice is reviewed against the [Framework for Improving of Student Outcomes \(FISO 2.0\)](#). FISO and the FISO improvement cycle help identify focus areas for improvement and to evaluate the impact of introduced initiatives.

Review of school curriculum

Layer of review/planning	Process and data used	Responsibility	Timeframe
Whole school	Curriculum plan reviewed against VCAA requirements.	BPS Leadership	Annually
Curriculum Areas	Curriculum Teams, seeking feedback from teaching teams.	BPS Leadership and School Improvement Team	Each Semester
Year levels	Weekly planning using agreed BPS Planning documents.	Learning Specialist Teachers	Weekly
Units and lessons	Weekly planning using agreed BPS Planning documents. Using agreed data to identify student needs and progress.	Learning Specialist Teachers	Weekly (Daily)

Review of teaching practice

Beechworth Primary School reviews teaching practice via:

- Professional Learning Communities, which link the learning needs of students with the professional learning and practice of teachers and provide an opportunity for teachers to collaboratively evaluate the effect of high impact teaching strategies; and
- The Performance Development cycle/Statement of Expectations, which provides an opportunity to provide feedback to teaching staff on their performance to support ongoing learning and development, with a focus on how student learning can be improved through improving teaching practice.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Policy and Advisory Library:
 - [Curriculum Programs Foundation to 10](#)
 - [Framework for Improving Student Outcomes \(FISO 2.0\)](#)
 - [Assessment of Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#)
 - [Digital Learning in Schools](#)
 - [Students with Disability](#)
 - [Koorie Education](#)
 - [Languages Education](#)
 - [Physical and Sport Education — Delivery Requirements](#)
 - [Reporting Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#)
 - [Sexuality and Consent Education](#)
 - [School Hours \(including variation to hours\)](#)
- This policy should be read alongside:
 - BPS whole school curriculum plan
 - BPS English Policy
 - BPS Numeracy Policy
 - BPS Teaching and Learning policy
 - BPS Unit planning documents.

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	2 May 2024
Consultation	BPS Leadership Team
Approved by	Principal – Susan McDonald
Next scheduled review date	May 2028