Disciplined Based Learning

Humanities

POLICY

Rationale:
The Studies of Humanities is a study of human progress and how people have organised themselves into societies over time, and how they have interacted with both themselves and their physical environments. It examines the nature and interdependence of environments and people. Students also learn to develop respect and care for the environment.

Aims:
The study of Humanities seeks to develop within students the following three areas: Geography, History and Economics.

This knowledge also aims to develop in students the skills to:
- Identify, collect and process data from a range of sources, including electronic media.
- Use the inquiry process to plan an investigation, analyse data, and form conclusions supported by evidence.
- Reason and solve problems to assist them in making meaning of their society and environment.
- Clarify values and attitudes about issues affecting society and the environment, in particular tolerance of people from many cultures and commitment to the democratic process.
- Participate in activities that enhance community life, particularly in making decisions about civic projects and in ways of achieving ecologically sustainable development.
- Use information technology to support learning about society and environment and in investigating and communicating ideas.

Implementation:
- All students at our school will study a sequential Humanities course based upon the outcomes contained within the VELS document.
- A sequence chart of topics is developed so that themes will not be repetitive for students.
- Student’s individual abilities must be considered when planning units of work, and learning opportunities must be provided that cater for the identified needs of each student.
- Student progress in Humanities will be reported in half and end of year academic reports.
- Humanities study for each student will be not less than 1 hour per week.
- Humanities 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 Humanities program will be developed by staff and resourced by school council.
- A staff member will be allocated the responsibility of coordinating the school’s Humanities program.

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

This policy was last ratified by School Council in.... Oct 2006

References: curriculum@work cd