

Jells Park Primary School

Science Policy

Purpose:

Science education at Jells Park Primary School will provide opportunities for students to develop an understanding of the relationship between science, technology and society and to gain an awareness of the impact of science on society, the individual and the environment, both now and in the future.

It will encourage curiosity and a spirit of enquiry by providing students with a valuable way of exploring and understanding their world.

Guidelines:

Through learning Science students will:

- Acquire knowledge and understandings within Biological, Chemical, Physical, Earth and Space Sciences and about sustainability and environmental issues at local and global levels.
- Investigate and acknowledge how people work with, and through, science in the world and their community.
- Develop scientific attitudes such as flexibility, curiosity, critical reflection and a respect for evidence.
- Use the processes of scientific investigation, reasoning and analysis to ask questions, challenge conceptions, seek solutions and communicate outcomes.
- Interpret and communicate scientific ideas using appropriate terminology to a range of audiences.
- Recognize the strengths and limitations of Science whilst appreciating its impact on social, technological and environmental change.

Implementation:

- Science learning and teaching is most effective when integrated within powerful units of work, which incorporate the AusVELS appropriate for specific area levels.
- Some non integrated science learning and teaching activities will be organized using an area level or year level rotation structure.
- A whole school Scope and Sequence reference planning document will be developed to ensure that Science learning and teaching adequately addresses all aspects and areas across the area levels and also provides particular students with extension and challenging learning activities.
- An activity/inquiry based approach will be an integral part of the Science program.
- The AusVELS will be the basis for the Science program. The domain is organized into three dimensions:

Science Understanding, Science as a Human Endeavour and Science Inquiry Skills

- The ‘Primary Connections’ references will be a major resource to assist teachers to plan and implement a wide variety of Science learning and teaching content and strategies
- Where practicable, cross-age, as well as peer support, learning will be incorporated to promote a broader range of cooperative learning experiences.
- Teachers will gather a variety of data to reflect the learning of their students and to assist in the evaluation of their progress. This may include:
 - Portfolio rubrics and individualized tasks and projects which will be developed by AusVELS level teams to examine the degree of understanding students have gained from integrated unit studies and/or rotation activities.
 - Students responses to surveys, peer and self-assessment tasks to demonstrate learning and attitudes to the Science curriculum presented.
 - Students presenting research through oral, visual, electronic and text format.
 - Teachers observing student learning and note their participation in activities, the sharing of ideas and their questioning of concepts and findings.
 - Links will be maintained with local environmental and community facilities and through selected Community Science programs.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of Jells Park Primary School four yearly review cycle.