

LALOR EAST PRIMARY SCHOOL

HUMANITIES POLICY

Rationale

In the Victorian Curriculum F-6, Humanities includes Civics & Citizenship, Geography, History and Economics & Business.

The Humanities provide a framework for students to examine the complex processes that have shaped the modern world and to investigate responses to different challenges including people's interconnections with the environment.

Purpose

In History and Geography, students explore the processes that have shaped and which continue to shape different societies and cultures, to appreciate the common humanity shared across time and distance, and to evaluate the ways in which humans have faced and continue to face different challenges.

In Civics & Citizenship and Economics & Business, students explore the systems that shape society, with a specific focus on legal and economic systems. Students learn about Australia's role in global systems, and are encouraged to appreciate democratic principles and to contribute as active, informed and responsible citizens.

Aims

Geography (Grade Prep - 6)

The Geography curriculum aims to ensure that students develop:

- a sense of wonder, curiosity and respect for places, people, cultures and environments throughout the world
- a deep geographical knowledge of their own locality, Australia, the Asia region and the world
- the ability to think geographically, using geographical concepts
- the capacity to be competent, critical and creative users of geographical methods and skills
- the capacity to be informed, responsible and active citizens who can contribute to the development of a world that is environmentally and economically sustainable, and socially just.

History (Grade Prep - 6)

History aims to ensure that students develop:

- interest in, and enjoyment of, historical study for lifelong learning and work, including their capacity and willingness to be informed and active citizens
- knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the past and the forces that shape societies, including Australian society
- understanding and use of historical concepts and skills, including sequencing chronology, using historical sources as evidence, identifying continuity and change, analysing cause and effect and determining historical significance
- capacity to undertake historical inquiry, including skills in the analysis and use of sources, and in explanation and communication of arguments.

Civics & Citizenship (Grade 3 - 6)

Civics and Citizenship aims to ensure students develop:

- a lifelong sense of belonging to, and engagement with, civic life as an active and informed citizen in the context of Australia as a secular, democratic nation with a dynamic, multicultural and multi-faith society
- knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the values, principles, institutions and practices of Australia's system of democratic government and law, and the role of the citizen in Australian government and society
- skills necessary to investigate contemporary civics and citizenship issues, and foster responsible participation in Australia's democracy
- the capacities and dispositions to participate in the civic life of their nation at a local, regional and global level.

Economics & Business (Grade 5 - 6)

The Economics & Business curriculum aims to develop students':

- enterprising behaviours and capabilities that are transferable into life, work and business opportunities and contribute to the development and prosperity of individuals and society
- understanding of the ways society allocates limited resources to satisfy needs and wants, and how they participate in the economy as consumers, workers and producers
- understanding of the work and business environments within the Australian economy and its interactions and relationships with the global economy, in particular the Asia region
- reasoning and interpretation skills to apply economics and business concepts and theories to evaluate information they encounter, make informed decisions and use problem-solving skills to respond to economics and business issues and events
- understanding of economics and business decision-making and its role in creating a prosperous, sustainable and equitable economy for all Australians
- knowledge, understandings and skills that will enable them to participate actively and ethically in the local, national, regional and global economy as economically, financially and business-literate citizens.

Implementation

- Civics & Citizenship, Economics & Business, Geography and History are each essential components of Humanities within the Victorian Curriculum's. The Integrated Studies Committee will encourage the development, implementation and integration of these curriculum areas when planning topics in our school.
- Student progress in each curriculum area will be reported on where applicable.
- Budgets that provide for the needs of each curriculum area program will be developed by the Integrated Studies Committee and resourced by School Council.
- Teachers will access the Victorian Curriculum online at <http://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/> and are required to work with their respective teams to develop and implement a joint Humanities course for all students.
- Geography, History and Business & Economics activities that reflect the topics being studied at school will be overseen by the Integrated Studies Committee.
- Civics & Citizenship underpins many areas of learning for our students e.g. Start Up Program, School Values, Peer Support etc

Links

Other school policies which are connected with this policy are:

- Cultural Diversity Policy
- Literacy Policy
- Numeracy Policy
- Digital Technologies Policy

This policy replaces previous Lalor East Primary School policy documents:

- Civics and Citizenship Policy (2014)
- Geography Policy (2014)
- History Policy (2014)

Appendix

- Lalor East Primary School Integrated Studies Scope and Sequence.
- Victorian Curriculum: <http://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle, or as changes are made to Victorian DET regulations or at times that the Principal forms the opinion that the policy warrants a review.

Approved by School Council:
Review Date:

November 2017
November 2020