



ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Numeracy Policy

INTRODUCTION

St John Fisher Catholic Primary School will provide all students with appropriate opportunities to develop their numeracy skills, and to achieve competence in the application of these skills, within a wide range of contexts.

PURPOSE / RATIONALE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that:

- all students meet the targets set by the National Literacy and Numeracy Plan;
- Board of Studies requirements are adhered to;
- the expectations of the Diocesan Numeracy Statement are taken into account.

AIM

The aim of the national Literacy and Numeracy goal is:

"that every child leaving Primary School should be numerate and able to read, write and spell at an appropriate level."

This can be achieved by:

- planning and implementing quality teaching and learning programs;
- on-going observation and assessment to meet individual needs;
- providing meaningful experiences that relate to the children;
- Linking numeracy to all key learning areas.

BELIEFS ABOUT TEACHING AND LEARNING

At Saint John Fisher School we believe Numeracy:

- is the ability to use mathematical ideas efficiently to make sense of the world;
- achievement empowers students to combat injustice and oppression;
- development can be assessed in a variety of ways;
- assessment should involve a wide variety of strategies which improve the quality of learning for all students;
- includes a body of basic Mathematical knowledge;
- embraces the skills of analysis, thinking and the ability to communicate mathematical ideas by posing, formulating, solving and evaluating problems.

RELIGIOUS DIMENSION

At St John Fisher we celebrate and share our Catholic faith and life experience. Numeracy is imbued with a vision of the innate dignity of all students, as created in the image and likeness of a loving, generous and creating God. Therefore:

- Teaching and learning is designed to ignite the imagination of all students to see beyond the technical and utilitarian aspects of individual achievement, into recognition of how innumeracy fosters injustice and oppression.
- Numeracy will reflect a world view. The promotion of consumerism and economic rationalism within our world needs to be tempered to reflect the Catholic view, “**common wealth for the common good.**” (adapted from *A Numeracy Statement for Diocesan Schools K-12*, 2001)

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

- St John Fisher Catholic Primary School will have in place a School Numeracy Policy and Plan, which reflects the Diocesan Policy and implements the directions of the Diocesan Numeracy Statement;
- St John Fisher Catholic Primary School will pay specific attention to numeracy needs associated with gender and Special Needs students;
- data from the “Basic Schools Numeracy Test” and “Getting To Know Children Through Numeracy” will be used to inform teaching and learning K - 6;
- Teachers to be provided with professional development at a school and diocesan level.

OUTCOMES

This policy will ensure that:

- a Numeracy Plan will be in place to articulate our school’s beliefs, expectations and targets for numeracy development;
- there is an agreed practice in the implementation of the Numeracy Plan;
- school leaders, teachers, parents and students work in a collaborative partnership in the development of numeracy in the school;
- the numeracy development of all students is enhanced in all Key Learning Areas;
- ongoing monitoring of all students performance in numeracy is in place and informs teaching practices;
- resources are regularly reviewed and updated with a focus on all KLAs;
- there is adequate ongoing staff professional development in numeracy;
- effective intervention strategies for targeted students are in place.

REFERENCES

- Numeracy Plan
- A Numeracy Statement for Diocesan School K – 12 2001-2004
- Mathematics Policy
- Resource list (appendix A)

EVALUATION

Staff will ensure currency and relevance by annual reviews under the guidance of the Mathematics Co-ordinator.