

# Inquiry Learning Policy

## **Rationale:**

- Learning which results in deep understanding requires activities that call on students to engage thoughtfully with the new information.
- Analytical, critical and creative thinking skills require students to utilize the new information in a focussed and targeted manner.

## **Aims:**

- To enable students to be at the centre of their education.
- To enable students to identify key ideas and concepts and to build understanding.
- To engage and challenge students in their learning.
- To develop deep thinking in students which leads to positive, lasting learning behaviours.

## **Implementation:**

- The focus of the Inquiry Units will be appropriate to the students' learning needs and levels of maturity.
- Inquiry Learning will be based on the AusVELS curriculum and draw on other relevant curriculum resources.
- Inquiry Learning will be organized into a developmental continuum from Prep to Year 6 in a 2-year cycle in order to provide appropriate curriculum focus throughout the primary years of schooling.
- Inquiry Learning will encompass a full range of curriculum areas or disciplines including Science, History, Geography, Economics, the Arts, Civics & Citizenship, Health and Physical Education.
- The e5 Instructional Model will be the basis of all teaching and learning practices in the classroom.
- Inquiry Learning will allow all students to experience each of the elements and varied starting points of the e5 Instructional Model – Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate and Evaluate.
- The capabilities developed through the Inquiry Learning will:
  - Strengthen connections
  - Develop language and literacy
  - Present new content
- Performances indicators demonstrated through Inquiry Learning:
  - Employ the modes of language – listening, speaking, reading, viewing and writing
  - Teaches the conventions of English language – spelling, grammar, punctuation
  - Develops the language of the discipline
- Inquiry Learning will be referenced against quality criteria which describes how well the learner demonstrates understanding and proficiency.
- Quality criteria will:
  - Identify the student's level of English language proficiency.
  - Differentiate teaching according to all students' English language proficiency
  - Model the use of English language

## **Renewal and Approval:**

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four-year review cycle.