Curriculum Statement

Note: This document contains extracts from a more detailed curriculum, assessment and reporting policy statement prepared by Ararat North Primary School. These extracts are provided as contextual information, to support viewing the examples of the four interrelated layers within whole-school curriculum planning.

The core purpose of Ararat North Primary School is to provide an inclusive, rigorous learning environment that challenges and engages young people to grow as passionate life-long learners. Ararat North Primary School seeks to develop motivated, creative and independent learners who demonstrate strong social values and whose leadership, resilience and self-esteem is evident when interacting with the community.

Ararat North Primary School provides a comprehensive curriculum with a strong focus on literacy and numeracy. Curriculum initiatives include Reader’s and Writer’s Notebooks, iMaths, Top Ten Hands on Numeracy and Musical Futures. In addition to the comprehensive classroom programs offered in literacy and numeracy, an integrated classroom curriculum program addresses the curriculum areas of Science, Humanities/History, Technologies/Arts and Civics and Citizenship. These curriculum areas are also cross referenced with the literacy program to ensure sufficient time is allocated to address the content. Our curriculum is supported by a range of camps and excursion initiatives. The school is an active participant in district sport competitions and provides an exceptional, whole school swimming program.

A teaching and learning team across levels ensure scope and sequence and curriculum coverage is monitored across the school. The teaching and learning team is currently responsible for core curriculum development and delivery in literacy, numeracy and integrated studies including history, design technology, sustainability and digital technologies and the visual and performing arts. Specialist programs from Prep to Year 6 are delivered for Health and Physical Education.

The school has a Curriculum and School Improvement team comprising all members of the school teaching staff. The teams focuses on literacy, numeracy, welfare, assessment and reporting and personalised learning.

Ararat North Primary School is focused on 4–5 year planning cycles and continuous analysis of a range of data around school improvement. There is a high level of professional development and the promotion of professional autonomy in the context of participation in school improvement.

The school has developed a structured approach to curriculum planning and delivery which it has called “The Teaching and Learning Framework” that ensures a shared vision within the school on curriculum development, common documentation and common understanding of the whole-school curriculum by teachers and parents. The data analysed regularly by teachers in their curriculum planning includes a suite of assessments, NAPLAN and an analysis of school performance data including student, staff and parent surveys.