



Wheelers Hill
PRIMARY SCHOOL

ARTS POLICY

Rationale

The Arts have an important fundamental role in all societies. Participation in Arts programs assists students to develop an understanding of life and culture. They will also see the world in different ways. Through the Arts we gain a sense of our social and individual identity. Study in the Arts, teaches cultural diversity within our school environment and also in the wider community.

Wheelers Hill Primary School is committed to providing the opportunity for all students to actively participate in, and learn about a range of Arts incorporating:

- Music
- Dance
- Drama
- Media
- Visual Arts

PERFORMING ARTS

Music is an integral part of life. It is part of our cultural heritage and our evolving future. It is a means of personal expression, triggering our emotions and contributing to our aesthetic appreciation and understandings. Music helps nurture in students an enjoyment and understanding which will enrich the quality of their lives and equip them to become intelligent consumers of music. It provides experiences and develops skills that will help students realise their individual potential in the field of music.

Dance is expressive human movement, which has a variety of forms and purposes, ranging from social activities to theatrical performances. Dance is taught in many ways. It is integrated into the Physical Education program, classroom activities, school musical productions, and concerts and the specialist Music program.

Drama is the enactment of real and imagined events through roles and situations. In drama, students take on roles and learn actively through the process of imagination to be other characters or exist in other situations. In this way they explore their world, speculate on possible futures, and deepen their understandings of themselves and others. For younger students drama is a natural extension of play.

Media involves the construction of representations about both real and imagined experiences. Media enables students to develop skills in such forms as radio, television, print computer technology and photography.

VISUAL ARTS

Visual Arts incorporates planning, experimentation and construction of two and three dimensional art works. It should reflect the experiences of students and, where possible, be linked to integrated investigations. It assists students to appreciate and develop cultural traditions, share invention and discovery, pose problems and find solutions. They learn about the role of the artist and designer and their contribution to society. The Visual Arts curriculum aims to develop students' conceptual and perceptual ideas and expressions through the design and planning processes. They explore

visual arts techniques, materials, processes and technologies. Media involves the construction of representations about both real and imagined experiences, for example photography.

Students create visual art works that communicate, challenge and express their own and others' ideas. They develop perceptual and conceptual understanding, critical reasoning and practical skills through exploring and expanding their understanding of their world, and other worlds.

They apply Visual Arts knowledge in order to make critical judgments about their own work and that of others. Learning in the Visual Arts helps students to develop understanding of world cultures and their responsibilities as global citizens.

1 Guidelines

The Arts program aims to:

- 1.1 Expand Arts experiences through active participation in all related programs
- 1.2 Develop skills, techniques and knowledge according to individual needs
- 1.3 Foster an appreciation of artistic expression within themselves and others
- 1.4 Explore feelings, express ideas and communicate in different ways
- 1.5 Encourage risk taking, imagination, alternative solutions, sharing of opinions and the development, practice and refinement of techniques
- 1.6 Provide opportunities to perform and present art works
- 1.7 Allow students to experience work in co-operation with others and to find pleasure in shared Arts experiences
- 1.8 Allow students to experience Arts from a wide range of styles, periods, and origins

The Performing Arts program aims to:

- 1.9 Provide opportunities to experience the expressive qualities of music
- 1.10 Develop experiences in composing, performing and listening to music
- 1.11 Develop student skills to critically analyse media representations and productions
- 1.12 Give students the opportunity to critically analyse media and their own media representations and production.
- 1.13 Build students' ability to take on roles
- 1.14 Allow students to experience a wide range of Performing Arts activities, (e.g. composing, arranging, performing, listening, choreographing, staging) in order to develop:
 - Insights into how music, drama and dance function and the ability to apply these to new Performing Arts experiences
 - Concepts of the elements of music, drama and dance
 - Understandings of Performing Arts style as it relates to period, culture and creator
 - Develop Performing Arts skills and increase the qualities of their Performing Arts experiences
 - Provide opportunities to reflect on Performing Art works.

The Visual Arts program aims to:

- 1.15 Incorporate two interrelated principles:

- Students learn as artist and viewer
 - Student learn through making and responding
- 1.16 Involve students making and responding to artworks, and drawing on the world as a source of ideas.
- 1.17 Engage students and develop their knowledge of Visual Arts, skills, techniques and processes, and use materials as they explore a range of forms, styles and contexts.
- 1.18 Provide students with a variety of Visual Arts opportunities in the areas of drawing, painting, threads and textiles, modelling and construction, printing and collage.
- 1.19 Share work with students' peers and examples of students' work may be displayed within the school and the wider community.
- 1.20 Through learning in Visual Arts students consider how cultures and societies, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories, shape visual arts practice and how artists and viewers contribute to a creative society.
- 1.21 Develop an understanding of concepts and ideas in the Visual Arts program through technology.
- 1.22 Provide opportunities to reflect on Visual Art works.

1 Implementation

- 2.1 These programs are based on the dimensions and standards as outlined in the Victorian Curriculum
- 2.2 Where possible, Specialist teachers will be employed to cover the Music and Visual Arts aspects of the program. Dance will be also be incorporated into the Physical Education program. Classroom teachers will support and further develop the skills and knowledge offered in specialist programs within the Arts program.
- 2.3 The Arts program will be supported through the annual program budget. Specialist teachers will prepare and review program budgets, purchase, organise, store and maintain materials and resources, and provide staff program assistance.
- 2.4 Resources are maintained and managed by the individual co-ordinators in Specialist areas and where applicable by classroom teachers through their level budgets.
- 2.5 ICT resources will be regularly updated to support and enhance the programs.
- 2.6 Excursions and In-School activities may be organised to support programs.
- 2.7 The Performing Arts teachers will organise the whole school Performing Arts events such as a bi-annual concert.
- 2.8 The Visual Arts teachers will organise the whole school major Art Exhibition biennially.
- 2.9 Senior students will have the opportunity to rehearse and perform in school ensembles
- 2.10 Students in years 1-6 will have the opportunity to participate in the choir
- 2.11 The dance component of Performing Arts assists students to explore and make choices about dance elements using their dance skills, techniques and preferences
- 2.12 Drama activities incorporate improvisation, games and exercises, script, theatre, puppetry and mime
- 2.13 Visual Arts students will have the opportunity to have their work displayed throughout the school on a regular basis.
- 2.14 The Visual Arts program will participate in selected community exhibitions, projects and competitions where appropriate.

3 Communication

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

4 Evaluation

4.1 The Education Sub-committee will review the effectiveness of the school's Arts Policy on a cyclic basis in accordance with DET Policy Framework and Guidelines.

Documents related to this policy



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Leasyl Richards (Assistant Principal)

Ratified by School Council

June 2023

Approved by Principal

June 2023

Next review

2027