Warrandyte Primary School .... a rich past, a school for the future

WARRANDYTE PRIMARY SCHOOL
STRATEGIC PLAN
2015-19
PHILOSOPHY

At Warrandyte Primary School the following assumptions about student learning form the philosophical basis of Learning and Teaching:

- all students are capable of learning and want to learn
- students learn at different rates and in different ways
- a curriculum which is developmental, relevant and which covers the Key Learning Areas will extend and develop the abilities of each student
- learning can be fostered best in a socially supportive environment which promotes success for every student
- student self-esteem and confidence are central to student learning
- students need regular feedback about their learning performance in order to improve their learning

“How we teach must reflect how our students learn. It must also reflect the world our students will move into. This is a world which is rapidly changing, connected, adapting and evolving. Our style and approach to teaching must emphasise the learning in the 21st century”.

http://edorigami.wikispaces.com/

Our school values are reflected in everything we do.
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

Warrandyte Primary School is situated in the suburb of Warrandyte approximately 25 kilometres from Melbourne. A school was first established in Warrandyte when the area was a gold mining community. The school was originally built in 1875 and became known as Warrandyte Primary in 1908. Warrandyte Primary School is bordered by the Warrandyte State Park and is close to established housing, the Yarra River and surrounding parklands. The school provides educational services to students from the townships of Warrandyte as well as the surrounding areas.

Warrandyte Primary School has a mixture of facilities with most students housed in school buildings built in 1853. Foundation (Prep) classes are held in the original stone school building that was built in 1875. The school offers four separate buildings including a newly updated administration wing and classrooms offering flexible learning spaces.

The school’s sustainability centre hosts a hen house, a worm farm and a variety of herb and vegetable gardens. The school grounds provide a range of play spaces for students including an oval, basketball courts and four adventure playgrounds.
In 2016, the school operate ten class groups and students are grouped into single and multi-age grades.

The school follows the Victorian curriculum in the key learning areas.

Specialist programs include the Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Languages Other Than English (LOTE) – Japanese and Physical Education.

Extra-curricular programs include interschool sport, a camping program for students Foundation (prep) to year 6, a chess group, involvement in Gateways programs, a gardening club, after school sporting activities and a community music program.

An emphasis on the Arts is a feature of the school with students involved in the community festival, choirs, the school Bushband, instrumental groups and community visual arts events.

The school community has had a long association with the ‘Rats of Tobruk’. A trust fund, set up through the Rats of Tobruk association, allows the school to provide a $1000 scholarship for a graduating student.
SCHOOL VALUES

At Warrandyte Primary School we C.A.R.E.

CREATIVITY in a dynamic learning environment
*This means:*
We look for new ways of doing things.
We can demonstrate our learning in different ways and can consider alternatives and be flexible.
We strive to develop questioning minds.

ACHIEVEMENT of potential
*This means:*
We set goals and strive to achieve them.
We understand our strengths and areas for improvement in order to extend ourselves.
We aim to embrace all areas of our academic, social, physical and emotional development.

RESPECT for ourselves, others and the community
*This means:*
We treat others as we would like to be treated.
We protect our school environment.
We aim to be fair, honest and responsible to ourselves and others.
We look after our school property and all belongings.

ENCOURAGEMENT of ourselves and others to do our best
*This means:*
We motivate others to do their best.
We talk to others in a positive way and provide constructive feedback.
We build confidence in ourselves and others.
We celebrate everyone’s successes.
Achievement:
To improve individual student learning outcomes.

Key improvement strategies
Develop and implement an agreed Warrandyte Primary School pedagogy of teaching and learning.

Build teacher capacity to differentiate teaching to ensure challenge and progress for every student.

Actions
Develop a whole school pedagogical framework which is concept driven and inquiry based.

Provide an approach to teaching where learning is personalised for every student.

Review and begin to implement the Victorian Curriculum.

Define and document common beliefs about teaching and learning.

Develop a scope and sequence for Mathematics.

Develop and document a whole school approach to assessment and reporting.

Success criteria
Whole School professional learning that supports goals and strategies of the Strategic Plan

Student centred, personalised learning visible across the whole school.

Implementation of the Victorian Curriculum.

Development of a Warrandyte Primary School Teaching and Learning Booklet.

Bestest lesson and learning walks used to improve teacher capabilities.

Teachers to use multiple sources of information about students to monitor and ensure appropriate student achievement growth.

Gathering and sharing whole school data
School wide assessment schedule.

Learning Improvement or Extension plans developed for students.

At Warrandyte Primary School we C.A.R.E
Creativity, Achievement, Respect and Encouragement
**Engagement:**

To empower students to become creative and curious 21st century learners who make connections between local, national & global contexts.

**Key improvement strategies**

Create opportunities for student voice and involve students in decision making about how they can make a difference.

Build capacity in teachers to personalise learning for all students.

**Actions**

Build an inquiry learning culture.

Plan and implement rich, authentic learning experiences for students across the curriculum.

Provide opportunities for student led forums.

Implement consistent protocols for student behaviour across the school community.

Build opportunities for students to develop critical and digital literacies.

Capitalise on the potential of technology to engage the parent community in their child’s learning.

**Success criteria**

Whole School professional learning with Kath Murdoch – Inquiry Learning.

A new, concept driven, school-wide inquiry scope and sequence planner which will be based on the Victorian Curriculum.

Through whole school professional learning develop understandings of the standards within Critical and Creative Thinking, Ethical Capabilities, Intercultural Capabilities and Personal and Social Capabilities (Victorian Curriculum)

Student led forums unpack survey results and other local issues.

BYO Device program investigated and introduced.

Increased opportunities for students to shape their own learning.

Teachers incorporate ICT into planning documents and classroom practice.

All teachers trained and proficient using technologies to enhance student learning.

Communication improved to enable parents to become actively involved in their child’s learning.

At Warrandyte Primary School we C.A.R.E

Creativity, Achievement, Respect and Encouragement
**Well Being:**
To enhance the wellbeing of all students.

### Key improvement strategies
To build the capacity of all members of the Warrandyte Primary School community to understand how to meet the wellbeing needs of themselves and others.

### Actions
- Raise the profile of wellbeing across the school.
- Implement consistent protocols for student behavior across the school community.
- Implement wellbeing programs to build resilience in students and help them understand their own feelings.
- Document wellbeing strategies.
- Develop a deep understanding of each student through a range of strategies.

### Success criteria
- Values and school philosophy articulated through school newsletters, website, classroom displays, student awards etc
- Mission statement, vision and values reviewed and revised to reflect 21st Century teaching and learning practices
- WPS values and ‘norms’ will be visible in every classroom and referred to regularly
- Behavioural protocols and strategies reviewed
- WPS engagement policy updated
- Well-being Booklet drafted that includes a range of resources and strategies
- Cybersafety practices will be incorporated into the regular classroom wellbeing programs.
- Teachers using the electronic roll to efficiently record student attendance data.

At Warrandyte Primary School we C.A.R.E
Creativity, Achievement, Respect and Encouragement