

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Rationale:

- Focussed and needs driven professional development programs provide optimum opportunities for professional growth, enhanced diversity and improved student learning for all members of the College Community.

Aims:

- To provide opportunity for all staff to further their professional skills and/or qualifications.
- To provide opportunities for staff to further develop their awareness, knowledge and skills in current teaching and learning practices.
- To develop teachers with enhanced skills that in turn will improve student learning
- To ensure all members of the College Community have the opportunity to develop the skills they need to exercise their responsibilities in the most effective manner.

Implementation:

- Ongoing and needs driven professional development is an obligation of all members of the College Community.
- Each individual's professional development is a shared responsibility between the school and the staff member and supports the school wide pedagogy.
- Each staff member will develop a personal professional development plan that is aligned to the school's Strategic and Annual Implementation Plans and reflects DEECD standards of performance linked to teacher development and student learning outcomes and will include at least three sources of feedback to support learning.
- A staff member's personal professional development plan will include activities, which supports their personal pedagogy.
- The personal professional development plan will allow for staff wellbeing and support personal goals.
- A staff member will be assigned the responsibility of professional development coordinator. Their role will be to inform staff of professional development opportunities, which in turn will reflect individual staff needs as identified in performance and development plans. The Coordinator will also play a role in coordinating and organising professional development activities for the whole school.
- Individual staff applying for PD will use the computer program 'PD Tracker', supported by the Professional Development Coordinator.
- A budget will be allocated to professional development each year and adhered to. Budget implementation will allow, over time, for equity of resources amongst staff, and include an amount for incidental professional development. The Professional Development Coordinator will be responsible for its implementation.
- Staff are encouraged to seek and provide professional development from other staff members within the College and to share their learning with others.
- All staff and councillors attending professional development have a responsibility to report briefly to the remainder of staff/councillors about the activity and its benefits etc.
- School Councillors have an obligation to undertake professional development. For example: Induction programs.

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