



Curriculum Framework

PURPOSE

The purpose of this framework is to outline Whittlesea Secondary College's organisation, implementation and review of curriculum and teaching practices and to ensure that, taken as a whole, all eight learning areas are substantially addressed, unless an exemption applies.

The framework shows, at a high level, how the school will deliver its curriculum, how the curriculum and teaching practice will be reviewed, how we assess student learning, how we record and monitor student performance, and when and how we report to parents.

This curriculum framework should be read alongside our whole school, Domain Area curriculum plans.

OVERVIEW

Whittlesea Secondary College provides all students with a planned and structured curriculum to equip them with the knowledge, skills and attributes needed to complete their schooling and to make a successful transition from school to work, training, or further education.

Whittlesea Secondary College is committed to offering a comprehensive curriculum based on the [Victorian Curriculum F-10](#). The key points in this framework, and in line with the [F-10 Revised Curriculum Planning and Reporting Guidelines](#), are a commitment to:

- Defined curriculum content that forms basis for student learning
- Curriculum planning that is based on two-year bands of schooling rather than each year level
- Developing and publishing a separate whole-school curriculum plan that documents our teaching and learning program
- Reporting student learning against the achievement standards in the curriculum
- Reporting student learning to students and parents in line with the Department's [Reporting Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#) policy.
- Complying with Departmental policies relating to curriculum provision, including:
 - [Physical and Sport Education — Delivery Outcomes](#)
 - [Sexuality and Consent Education](#)
 - [Holocaust Education – Delivery Requirements](#)

Whittlesea Secondary College has always taken pride in delivering exciting, diverse, and innovative curriculum and has established a strong identity and tradition in fulfilling lifelong learning. Our curriculum has a high academic focus and we not only challenge our students, but we encourage and reward persistence and good work ethic. Our students are empowered in their learning by choosing their subjects based on interest, curiosity and their post secondary school pathway goals. We have a strong VET program that includes links external providers to maximise access to a wide variety of subjects to enhance our students' pathway choices. At Whittlesea Secondary College, our vision is to empower students to become successful, confident, and responsible contributors in a 21st century community.

IMPLEMENTATION

Whittlesea Secondary College implements its curriculum by offering a vertical curriculum through Year 8-10 that sees students design their learning journey based on their interests and post secondary goals. Covering all Domain Areas including Italian, students have access to a wide variety of pathways. At Whittlesea Secondary College, class time is structured into a weekly timetable, with 300 minutes of learning per day, broken into 4 x 70 minute sessions and 1 x 20 minute Morning Check In per day.

Whittlesea Secondary College adopts a Morning Check In to provide students with opportunities for increased connectedness to their teachers and peers. Morning Check Ins are held for the first 20 minutes of each school day.

Further information on how our school implements the curriculum, including the learning areas provided at each year level/band of schooling, and the capabilities that are developed by students across these learning areas and the approximate time allocations for each learning area, is provided in our whole school, Domain curriculum planners.

Language provision

Whittlesea Secondary College will deliver Italian as a Language, based on our staffing profile and the interests of our students. ß

Pedagogy

At Whittlesea Secondary College, we aim for a consistent and predictable lesson structure, that is, our teachers run lessons in a consistent way across different Domain areas of the College. Our lesson structure, or Instructional Model, has been crafted using an evidence-based approach, including the Berry Street model for trauma informed practice. By having a consistent approach to our lesson planning, students are aware of the expectations of behaviour and our teachers can plan for different learning styles of our students. The research states that student engagement and behaviour improves as lessons become more consistent.

Assessment and Reporting

Whittlesea Secondary College assesses student progress in line with the Department's [Assessment of Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#) policy.

Students at Whittlesea Secondary College will have multiple and varied opportunities to demonstrate learning and achievement. Teachers use assessment tasks that cover multiple curriculum levels to ensure that evidence of learning and growth is captured for every student.

Whittlesea Secondary College reports student progress to parents in line with the Department's [Reporting Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#) policy. In addition, Whittlesea Secondary College ensures that there is continuous sharing of assessment information formally and informally with parents/carers throughout the term/semester, including through twice-annual formal reporting.

Whittlesea Secondary College's Assessment and Reporting policy can be found on the College website.

Parent-teacher interviews, conducted twice-yearly (in Terms 1 and 3), enable the opportunity to discuss the students' progress and how they can continue to be supported at home. Interpreting services will be made available where required.

CURRICULUM AND TEACHING PRACTICE REVIEW

School curriculum and teaching practice is reviewed against the [Framework for Improving of Student Outcomes \(FISO 2.0\)](#). FISO 2.0 and the FISO improvement cycle help identify focus areas for improvement and to evaluate the impact of introduced initiatives.

Review of school curriculum

Layer of review/planning	Process and data used	Responsibility	Timeframe
Whole school	Through the School review process, data including NAPLAN, Attitudes to School Survey, Staff Opinion Survey, Parent Opinion Survey, VCE mean Study Scores are used to evaluate the effectiveness of the Teaching and Learning program	Assistant Principal- Teaching and Learning Leading Teacher- Teaching and Learning Teaching and learning Team	4 years
Domain Areas	Domain Areas review the subjects they offer based on student engagement and growth data shown through teacher judgements and VCE mean Study Scores.	Domain Leaders Leading Teacher- Teaching and Learning	Yearly
Units and lessons	Unit and lesson plans are reviewed based on student engagement, cohort skill levels and deficits shown through NAPLAN, PAT testing data as well as pre/post testing.	Domain Leaders Leading Teacher- Teaching and Learning Teachers	5 – 10 week cycles

Review of teaching practice

Whittlesea Secondary College reviews teaching practice via:

- Professional Learning Communities, which link the learning needs of students with the professional learning and practice of teachers and provide an opportunity for teachers to collaboratively evaluate the effect of high impact teaching strategies; and

- the Performance Development cycle, which provides an opportunity to provide feedback to teaching staff on their performance to support ongoing learning and development, with a focus on how student learning can be improved through improving teaching practice.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Policy and Advisory Library:
 - [Curriculum Programs Foundation to 10](#)
 - [Framework for Improving Student Outcomes \(FISO 2.0\)](#)
 - [Assessment of Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#)
 - [Digital Learning in Schools](#)
 - [Students with Disability](#)
 - [Koorie Education](#)
 - [Languages Education](#)
 - [Physical and Sport Education — Delivery Requirements](#)
 - [Holocaust Education](#)
 - [Reporting Student Achievement and Progress Foundation to 10](#)
 - [Sexuality and Consent Education](#)
 - [School Hours \(including variation to hours\)](#)
- This policy should be read alongside:
 - WSC unit plans and Curriculum Documentation
 - The WSC Instructional Model
 - The WSC Assessment and Reporting Policy

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	August 2024
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	4 Years