



St. Joseph's Primary School

CREATIVE ARTS POLICY

RATIONALE

St. Joseph's Primary School Merriwa honours its commitment to quality Catholic education through its provision of high quality educational programs by which each child is enabled to reach their full potential.

(adapted from the school vision statement)

The Creative Arts K-6 syllabus provides information about teaching and learning visual arts, music, drama and dance. The syllabus provides opportunities for students to learn to work within and learn about these art forms, as well as development of knowledge, skills and understanding and their development of values about the art forms.

The staff at St Joseph's Primary School, Merriwa acknowledges the inclusion of perspectives in the Creative Arts through planning and programming, including particular artists, actors, musicians, dancers and events of significance in cultural life.

AIMS

- That the students engage in learning experiences in visual arts, music, drama and dance as part of their natural growth and development.
- That the students have regular learning experiences that are planned and sequenced for developing students' skills and knowledge within the art forms.
- To assist students in their lifelong learning in the visual arts, music, drama and dance.
- To provide opportunities to respect the views of various social and cultural groups, people with different religions and belief systems, and people with disabilities.
- That the students value the different perspectives of females and males.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. Personnel

Personnel involved in the implementation of the Creative Arts program include-

- Class teacher who is responsible for planning, teaching and assessing units of work.
- Parents who assist with group work, specialised activities and advice in implementing special programs.
- Upper Hunter Conservatorium tutors conduct one-on-one lessons with children whose families choose to participate. Ensemble formed from children out of the school.
- Upper Hunter Music Camp (Kia Ora) is offered to all children in Years 3-6.
- Incursions are periodically conducted in Music, Drama and Dance.

2. Time

In implementing the Creative Arts Syllabus it is suggested that time be given each week for the teaching of Music and Visual Arts. Dance and Drama may be taught as a separate strand or Dance be programmed as part of the

Dance strand in PDHPE (with Creative Arts Outcomes) and Drama be integrated throughout the KLA's with a focus on Creative Art Outcomes.

3. Resources

The main resource used at St Joseph's is the Creative Arts Syllabus and the Support Documents.

Supplementary material and unit planning resources are taken from the following:

- Music – Upbeat Music Program, ABC Sing Books and CDs and Vocal Ease Program. Percussion instruments are also available.
- Visual Arts – Various Visual Arts Teacher Resource Books (available in Resource Room). Consumables are ordered in yearly supplies and at class request and include paint, paper, crayons, paintbrushes and materials for sculpture and 3D models.
- Dance – Creative Arts Units of Work Support document, Mike Jackson tape and resource book and Bush Whackers CD.
- Drama – Cool Cats Plays, Creative Arts Units of Work Support document.

Resources such as Cool Cats and Upbeat are accessible through the library. Supplementary resources are available in the Teacher Resource Room.

4. Integration with KLA's

Creative Arts within the school is further supported by and can be integrated with other KLA's.

5. Scope and Sequence

A Scope and Sequence has been developed for the teaching of Creative Arts and is mandatory (See Appendix 1).

6. Provision for Students with Special Needs

Special needs of individual children will be catered for through Curriculum Differentiation.

7. Storage and Maintenance of Equipment

Resources are located in the Teacher Resource Room. Art Equipment is allocated to individual classrooms at the beginning of the year. Purchasing of resources will be an ongoing process dependent upon the requirements of strands and will be done in consultation with the Principal.

8. Assessment and Reporting

Assessment and evaluation procedures determine the nature of student learning provided in classrooms to achieve the competencies outlined by Board of Studies syllabus outcomes (linked to the K-6 Foundation Statements).

Assessment will involve the on-going monitoring of student skill development and a wide range of strategies, both formal and informal, will be used. These include:

- observation,
- conferencing,
- discussion,
- questioning,
- analysis of work samples,
- student self-assessment,
- interaction with parents/caregivers

(See Reporting Policy)

All staff at St Joseph's have the responsibility to regularly update their professional skills.

Teachers are encouraged to:

- Attend in-service opportunities provided by the Catholic Schools Office
- Attend staff meetings conducted by CSO Support Personnel and other guest speakers, where curriculum issues are discussed and advice and instruction given to enhance student learning
- Seek training where necessary

BUDGET

Budget allocated for the purchase of suitable resources to compliment the learning and teaching of Creative Arts.

EVALUATION

This policy will be evaluated every three years by staff, or sooner if the need arises and reviewed at the beginning of each school year.

This policy was initiated in	February 2008
It will be evaluated:	2011