Science Policy

Rationale:
- Science education contributes to developing scientifically and technologically literate citizens who will be able to make informed decisions about their lifestyle, their environment and the kind of society in which they wish to live. They will be able to see the connections between science and people, note the relevance of science and technology to past achievements and current and future development and be aware of the impact of science and technology on society, the individual and the environment.

Aims:
Through learning science, students will:
- acquire scientific skills and conceptual knowledge.
- acquire and use the skills of scientific investigation, reasoning and analysis to ask questions and seek solutions.
- develop scientific attributes such as flexibility, curiosity, critical reflection, respect for evidence and ethical considerations.
- recognise and understand the strengths and limitations of science.
- be able to interpret and communicate scientific ideas effectively.
- appreciate the dynamic role of science in social and technological change.

Implementation:
- All students at our school will study a sequential Science course based upon the outcomes contained within AusVELS.
- All teachers will be provided with a personal copy of AusVELS and are required to work with their respective teams to develop and implement a joint Science course for all students.
- Student’s individual abilities must be measured at the commencement of each unit of work, and learning opportunities must be provided that cater for the identified needs of each student.
- Student progress in Science will be reported in half and end of year academic reports as well as in the school’s annual report.
- Teachers will provide the Science Curriculum through an Integrated approach, ensuring that students are introduced to relevant science experiences during topical foci based upon one of the six Science overarching ideas: Patterns Order and Organisation, Form and Function, Stability and Change, Scale and Measurement, Matter and Energy and Systems.
- Science experiences and learning episodes may also be incorporated during Inquiry Units that have a focus in other Domains, and in Learning Centre activities in both Mathematics and Literacy.
- A budget that provides for the needs of the Science program will be developed by staff and resourced by school council.

The Science team will be responsible for:
- acquiring and managing the Science resources, comprising of teacher reference materials, publications and student references, and equipment, including perishable and consumable materials.
- attending and providing Science Professional Development for teaching and teaching support staff.
- promoting and sharing appropriate incursions, materials and references with teaching and teaching support staff and hence managing the Science Domain budget.

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