



Humanities Policy

Rationale:

In the Victorian Curriculum F–10, the Humanities includes Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business, Geography and History.

The Humanities provide a framework for students to examine the complex processes that have shaped the modern world and to investigate responses to different challenges including people’s interconnections with the environment.

Purpose:

In Civics and Citizenship and Economics and Business, students explore the systems that shape society, with a specific focus on legal and economic systems. Students learn about Australia’s role in global systems, and are encouraged to appreciate democratic principles and to contribute as active, informed and responsible citizens.

In History and Geography, students explore the processes that have shaped and which continue to shape different societies and cultures, to appreciate the common humanity shared across time and distance, and to evaluate the ways in which humans have faced and continue to face different challenges.

Civics and Citizenship (Grades 3-6)	Economics and Business (Grades 5-6)
<p>Civics and Citizenship aims to ensure students develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a lifelong sense of belonging to, and engagement with, civic life as an active and informed citizen in the context of Australia as a secular democratic nation with a dynamic, multicultural and multi-faith society. • knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the values, principles, institutions and practices of Australia’s system of democratic government and law, and the role of the citizen in Australian government and society. • skills necessary to investigate contemporary civics and citizenship issues, and foster responsible participation in Australia’s democracy. • the capacities and dispositions to participate in the civic life of their nation at a local, regional and global level. 	<p>The Economics and Business curriculum aims to develop students’:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enterprising behaviours and capabilities that are transferable into life, work and business opportunities and contribute to the development and prosperity of individuals and society. • understanding of the ways society allocates limited resources to satisfy needs and wants, and how they participate in the economy as consumers, workers and producers. • understanding of the work and business environments within the Australian economy and its interactions and relationships with the global economy, in particular the Asia region. • reasoning and interpretation skills to apply economics and business concepts and theories to evaluate information they encounter, make informed decisions and use problem-solving skills to respond to economics and business issues and events. • understanding of economics and business decision-making and its role in creating a prosperous, sustainable and equitable economy for all Australians. • knowledge, understandings and skills that will enable them to participate actively and ethically in the local, national, regional and global economy as economically, financially and business-literate citizens.

Geography (Grades F-6)	History (Grades F-6)
<p>The Geography curriculum aims to ensure that students develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a sense of wonder, curiosity and respect for places, people, cultures and environments throughout the world. • a deep geographical knowledge of their own locality, Australia, the Asia region and the world. • the ability to think geographically, using geographical concepts. • the capacity to be competent, critical and creative users of geographical methods and skills. • the capacity to be informed, responsible and active citizens who can contribute to the development of a world that is environmentally and economically sustainable, and socially just. 	<p>History aims to ensure that students develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interest in, and enjoyment of, historical study for lifelong learning and work, including their capacity and willingness to be informed and active citizens. • knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the past and the forces that shape societies, including Australian society. • understanding and use of historical concepts and skills, including sequencing chronology, using historical sources as evidence, identifying continuity and change, analysing cause and effect and determining historical significance. • capacity to undertake historical inquiry, including skills in the analysis and use of sources, and in explanation and communication of arguments.

Implementation:

- All students at our school will study a sequential Humanities course based upon the outcomes contained within the Victorian Curriculum.
- All teachers will access the Victorian Curriculum online at <http://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>, and are required to work with their respective teams to develop and implement a joint Humanities course for all students.
- A student's individual abilities must be considered when planning units of work, and learning opportunities must be provided that cater for the identified needs of each student.
- Student progress in Humanities will be reported in half and end of year academic reports. The Victorian Curriculum provides Achievement Standards at the end of Grade 2, 4 and 6 for History and Geography; Grade 4 and 6 for Civics and Citizenship; and at Grade 6 for Economics and Business, with all students working towards the applicable standard/s.
- A budget that provides for the needs of the Humanities program will be developed by staff and resourced by school council.
- A staff member will be allocated the responsibility of coordinating the school's Humanities program.
- Staff at Bonbeach PS will be encouraged to attend relevant Professional Development opportunities that will align with the current School Strategic Plan, Annual Implementation Plan, and be of benefit for the students, as well as personally.

Evaluation:

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

Approved by School Council on: 2nd June 2017