Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School

Science Policy

Rationale:

At Our Lady Help of Christians, we believe Science provides an opportunity for students to answer interesting and important questions about the biological, physical and technological world. They can experience the joy of scientific discovery and nurture their natural curiosity about the world around them whilst developing critical and creative thinking skills and challenging themselves to identify questions and draw evidence-based conclusions using scientific methods.

(Adapted from AusVels, VCCA)

Aims:
We aim to ensure that students will develop:

- an interest in science, expanding their curiosity and willingness to explore, ask questions about and speculate on the changing world in which they live
- an understanding of the vision that science provides of the nature of living things, the nature of scientific inquiry and the ability to use a range of scientific inquiry methods
- an ability to interpret and communicate scientific understanding and findings to a range of audiences,
- appreciate the dynamic role of science in social and technological change
- recognise and understand the strengths and limitations of science
- a solid foundation of knowledge of the biological, chemical, physical, earth and space sciences.

Implementation:
At Our Lady Help of Christians:

- Science is an essential learning area of the Australian Curriculum
- All Foundation to Year 6 students at our school will work on Scientific Inquiry units based upon the content descriptions contained within the AusVels Science learning area and the Our Lady Help of Christians Inquiry Mapping Tool.
- All teachers use the inquiry model to develop and implement a Scientific Inquiry unit.
- Teachers select and use an appropriate inquiry proforma developed by Our Lady Help of Christians’ staff when planning units of work.
- Excursions and incursions are incorporated to enhance the students’ learning.
- We use a range of formal and informal assessment and evaluation strategies
- Resources for the scientific inquiry are provided from the Learning and Teaching budget.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Staff - Term 2 2015