



Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Primary School

Inquiry Learning Policy

Child Safety at Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Primary School - We are committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our students, staff, and volunteers. As part of this commitment we have implemented the Victorian Child Safe Standards to help protect children and young people under the age of 18 from child abuse and neglect, including cultural safety for Indigenous children and those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and children with a disability.

INTRODUCTION:

Based on the Victorian Curriculum whole school curriculum framework, Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Primary Inquiry Based Learning, ensures a comprehensive differentiated curriculum, incorporating physical, personal and social learning, discipline based learning and interdisciplinary skills. At the heart of our curriculum design, is a commitment to the inquiry pedagogical approach to teaching and learning.

At Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Primary, we believe that the inquiry pedagogical approach to teaching and learning allows all students to be actively involved in their own learning and to take responsibility for that learning. Inquiry allows each student's understanding of the world to develop in a manner and at a rate that is unique to that learner. Inquiry, interpreted in the broadest sense, is the process initiated by the student or the teacher that moves the student from his or her current level of understanding to a new and deeper level of understanding.

Inquiry can take many forms, including:

- exploring, wondering and questioning
- experimenting and playing with possibilities
- making connections between previous learning and current learning
- making predictions and acting purposefully to see what happens
- collecting data and reporting findings
- clarifying existing ideas and reappraising events
- deepening understanding through the application of a concept or rule
- making and testing theories
- researching and seeking information
- taking and defending a position

- solving problems in a variety of ways.

RATIONALE:

Inquiry Learning is defined as the learning of content areas Health, Science, and the Humanities, (Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business, Geography and History) using a range of forms of expression (Language, The Arts, Mathematics).

At Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Primary, we believe that the inquiry pedagogical approach to teaching and learning will enable each student to:

- develop an understanding of important concepts and how the world works
- use higher order thinking skills
- develop a more holistic view of the world. It makes learning 'whole'
- explore topics in context
- view learning as relevant and meaningful
- have their needs and preferred learning styles met
- be active learners rather than just passively absorbing facts and knowledge
- use their experiences to build on understandings and make generalisations
- develop skills of critical reasoning so that they are capable of making informed judgements
- learn to take responsible action to make a difference in our ever changing world.

EVALUATION:

This Policy/Statement will be evaluated in accordance with the School Improvement Plan under the sphere of Learning and Teaching and in accordance with [The Victorian Curriculum](#).