

# Dimboola Memorial Secondary College

## INDIVIDUAL LEARNING POLICY



### ***Rationale:***

Our general learning goals at Dimboola Memorial Secondary College are to maximise the educational opportunities for all students, strengthen community participation in Dimboola Memorial Secondary College, encourage excellence in all aspects of learning, improve the performance and morale of teachers, administration, support staff and students and manage resources in ways which maximise educational benefits for all students.

### ***Aims:***

- **All students in Years 7-10 will have an Individual Learning Plan**
- **All students at DMSC will have a Career Action Plan (CAP) Plan**
- **All students in any year who have special needs, are Koorie or are in Out of Home Care, will have an Individual Learning Plan.**
- To provide a curriculum that is comprehensive, flexible and adaptable to the needs, interests and abilities of students
- To develop the literacy and reasoning skills of all students and their ability to use language effectively
- To develop the numeracy skills of all students and their capacity to use and understand mathematical and scientific knowledge
- to develop practical skills and knowledge that equip students to involve themselves in practical pursuits of their choice
- To develop skills in teamwork, collaboration and co-operation
- To provide an educational setting where learning is integrated across the various learning areas and each area is recognised as being of equal importance
- To implement innovative curriculum programs designed to meet the needs of students
- To strengthen the curriculum through utilisation of community resources and actively encouraging community participation in curriculum initiatives
- To provide a coordinated program of learning for all students that continually builds on their prior experiences
- To provide a balanced and broad curriculum that provides students with the ability to specialise and to achieve to their potential
- To assess student's performance by highlighting their strengths, suggest ways to overcome weaknesses and recommending means by which their overall performance can be improved
- To implement an outcomes based approach to learning whereby tasks/goals are clearly laid down at the start of each unit of work:

Students should be clear about:

WHAT is required to be done.

WHY it is important.

HOW it will be done and assessed.

- To provide reports to parents showing an individualised description of:
  - What has been done/learnt
  - How well it has been done - quality
  - Improvements/achievements/developments
  - Strengths/weaknesses
  - Strategies for improvement
  - How well students are using their opportunities
- To ensure that there is equality of access to programs for all students and that they are able to experience success
- To recognise the personal worth of every student and member of staff and to develop within them a desire for continuous learning and self-improvement
- To provide a physical environment for students and staff that is safe, comfortable, attractive, functional and conducive to effective learning
- To develop teachers' skills in managing classrooms in which students display a mixture of needs, interests, abilities and behaviour patterns. Where possible staff should be given the opportunity to participate in relevant PD
- To encourage all students to work to capacity and to take greater responsibility for their learning
- To recognise the integral role of homework in effective learning

### ***Specifically for Gifted and Talented students***

- To provide enriching and challenging environments, activities and opportunities for all students in all Key Learning Areas
- Develop social, physical, emotional characteristics
- To implement extension and further enrichment for students who identify themselves by their enthusiasm, abilities and talents - and who display a passion for learning
- To encourage all students to become more involved, negotiate and take greater ownership over their learning.
- To encourage gifted and talented students to make the best of their opportunities
- To raise staff awareness of the needs of gifted and talented children and provide appropriate training and PD for staff

### ***Evaluation:***

**This policy was last ratified by School Council in....**

**May 2016**