



# OUR HOLY REDEEMER

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**Principal**  
Frank Dame

**Parish Priest**  
Mark Reynolds

## Learning & Teaching

### **RATIONALE:**

Student learning is fundamental to achievement and self-esteem. At Our Holy Redeemer School we believe that all students have the ability to learn and to progress as independent learners, supported by a wide range of learning and teaching styles within a caring environment. The provision of this learning is the core responsibility of teachers, parents, the principal, and the students themselves.

### **AIMS:**

At Our Holy Redeemer School we aim to develop the whole person by providing all students with the learning opportunities and experiences that they individually require.

Our Holy Redeemer recognises that students learn most effectively when:

- A safe and engaging learning environment is provided which caters for a balance in the growth of the 'whole person';
- Information about the child's cultural background and experiences are valued and there is a strong ongoing relationship within the school community and between home and school;
- The teacher is a demonstrator, facilitator and mentor;
- Opportunities are provided for them to express their individuality, to work and think independently, and to be intellectually stimulated;
- Individual learning styles are recognised and accommodated within an inclusive curriculum that values interpersonal skills;
- They are given thinking time to allow them to process and internalise information, acknowledging the developmental nature of the learning process;
- They are encouraged to become risk takers with their learning;
- They are skilled for a constantly changing and challenging world;
- Teachers encourage and provide opportunities for them to make choices in some aspects of their learning.

## **IMPLEMENTATION:**

### Design Principle:

Learning is optimised when it takes place within a supportive and engaging environment, which values positive relationships and caters for the individual growth of the 'whole person'.

At Our Holy Redeemer we...

- Use a variety of thinking tools
- Value the whole person (academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually)
- Personalise learning by valuing individual difference
- Provide a balance of individual, small group and large group activities
- Provide a comprehensive Student Wellbeing program
- Incorporate Social Emotional Learning into various aspects of our curriculum
- Implement common structures and expectations across the school
- Plan collaboratively as staff, and at times with students and with parents
- Foster open communication, encouraging 'learning at home'
- Enhance and support relationships between students, staff and parents and parish community
- Engage with parent and student forums
- Support family participation in learning (Eg: parent evenings, Seesaw App, Learning Expos, Learning Walks)
- Provide scaffolding for teaching-learning experiences to assist with developing independence in all subject areas;

### Design Principle:

Learners have the opportunity to engage, discover and express their experiences in meaningful and purposeful ways.

At Our Holy Redeemer we...

- Encourage Student voice and decision making
- Promote the use of Digital Technologies
- Engage with a wider audience (such as our parish community, local community)
- Promote engagement of Social Justice
- Foster purposeful writing
- Use the Inquiry Based Learning Approach
- Develop Integrated/RE units incorporating a balance of learning areas.
- Construct Integrated/RE units encompassing authentic purpose and input from the learners themselves
- Encourage hands on experiences
- Encourage student choice in ways that learning is developed and presented.
- Provide rich learning tasks.
- Provide opportunities to share ideas, feelings, beliefs, strategies and knowledge
- Model problem solving strategies

Design Principle:

Learning is a journey that can be tracked, celebrated and shared.

At Our Holy Redeemer we....

- Explicitly teach skills and processes to enable students to self assess, problem solve and set achievable goals in preparation for further learning.
- Share learning across year levels, between individuals, within classrooms and with the wider community
- Track student learning through work samples, digital learning portfolios (Seesaw), literacy and numeracy testing data, formalised reporting
- Provide regular feedback- verbally, written, formal and informal
- Encourage and support students to strive for high expectations and to value its importance.
- Provide Assessment For, As and Of
- Provide reflective and evaluative assessment
- Allow children time to reflect on their learning
- Encourage positive and constructive peer feedback
- Provide a supportive learning environment which allows maximum opportunities for students to succeed and celebrate all forms of success

Design Principle:

Learning is enhanced when there is a strong ongoing relationship within both the school community and wider community.

At Our Holy Redeemer we...

- Foster cooperative and collaborative skills within our school and the community
- Build engagement amongst all stakeholders - parents, staff, students, and the wider community
- Foster awareness of our responsibility in relation to global issues
- Engage with parent education sessions
- Provide and support relationships with the Parish community through the sacramental program, mass and other events.
- Regularly develop our school profile within the community, looking for opportunities to be involved in the local or wider community

Design Principle:

Education takes advantage of digital technologies and enables students to become both digitally literate and digitally adept.

At Our Holy Redeemer we....

- Foster the use of digital devices to support student learning
- Model being part of the global community, including our school and local community
- Explicitly teach Cyber Safety and netiquette components so students can implement safe and responsible practices.

- Encourage parents connection to their child's learning through technology and online resources
- Enable student choice when showcasing learning/ research
- Support Staff learning and practice in regards to technology

**EVALUATION:**

- This policy will be reviewed bi-annually as part of the school's development plan.

This policy was updated by staff: February 2019