COLAC SECONDARY COLLEGE

CURRICULUM AND STUDENT LEARNING FRAMEWORK POLICY

Policy Statement

Curriculum covers all the arrangements the school makes for students' development and learning. It includes the course content, student activities, teaching approaches, the way in which teachers and classes are organised and decisions on the need for and the use of facilities and resources.

Colac Secondary College encourages its students to strive for excellence in all their endeavours. To achieve this, the school provides sequential teaching and learning programs that deliver a comprehensive, broadly based and inclusive curriculum.

Each year the school will map out its curriculum offerings. This will be in the form of a Curriculum Plan. The annual curriculum plan is underpinned by the strategic plan and addresses the three areas of:
• Student Learning.
• Student Engagement.
• Student Pathways and Transitions.

Colac Secondary College is a school unconditionally committed to providing the very best education for every student. Central to this, is our belief that 'all students can learn' and 'aim, aspire, achieve' given the right conditions. Our job is to maintain a safe environment to ensure all students have the opportunity to reach their academic potential.

At Colac Secondary College we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our school. Our commitment is drawn from our values that are clearly stated and lived: 'Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, and Achievement.'

Aims

Colac Secondary will recognize and respond to diverse student needs when developing its curriculum programs and curriculum plan**.** There will be a broad range of programs to meet the demands of students, including: Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE), Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) and Vocational Educational and Training (VET). School curriculum programs are designed to enhance effective learning.

Colac Secondary College ensures that children and young adults are supported through each of the critical transition points from kindergarten to school, from early years to middle years and middle year to senior years and then into further education and careers. The curriculum plan enables students from the middle years and senior years to make guided subject selections based on their individual learning needs.

PROGRAM

The mission of Colac Secondary College is to excel in the provision of broad, flexible and inclusive educational pathways for our students that highlight our strong sense of community and our continued tradition of excellence. This is achieved through a stimulating, comprehensive and challenging academic focus and is supported by specialist activities in sport, performing arts, music, public speaking, student leadership, technology and the arts.   There is an emphasis on developing optimistic, resourceful and resilient global citizens for the future.

The College values of Respect, Honesty, Achievement and Responsibility guide our fundamental principles of action across all areas of the school, and help our students to Aim, reach and Aspire; culminating in a strong belief that they can Achieve high level success through learning in all parts of 21st Century life.

The College is committed to a school improvement focus that extends and transforms teaching and learning to promote high levels of academic achievement. Our teachers provide an inclusive and personalised program to meet the diverse range of student learning needs. A differentiating curriculum approach supports students in their learning growth.

We are committed to building students' potential for success and wellbeing through strong mentoring partnerships that emphasise all aspects of life that relate to the holistic development of a students' talents, interests and goals.   We pride ourselves in providing an environment that is conducive to each child achieving their personal potential.

Student wellbeing is seen as critical in empowering students with the social and emotional competencies to experience success and happiness in their lives.   A comprehensive student wellbeing structure is in place throughout the College that focuses on student care. These teams coordinate a series of inclusive programs that build student self-worth, personal identity and relationships of mutual respect. We effectively monitor and compassionately support students at all levels of the College in regard to their individual and collective wellbeing needs.

The school community is arranged into two distinct Learning Communities; Year 7 to Year 9 Community (Middle Years), and the Year 10 to 12 Community (Latter Years). These communities cater for the different developmental stages of learning and provide an environment where students work with other individuals of similar age and have similar learning needs. Our school structure will ensure that as students grow and develop throughout their education journey they will be able to access the individualised programs that will cater for their needs and ensure a suitable pathway into further education or employment.

Colac Secondary College aims to provide a safe and supportive community where respect, diversity and pride are valued by all. The College links with families and the community to provide a wide variety of extra curricula activities and leadership opportunities for students and encourages outstanding performances in the areas of leadership, academic achievement, sport, performing arts, debating and public speaking, cultural and artistic achievement.

Guidelines

Colac Secondary College will comply with all DET guidelines about the length of student instruction time required in Victorian schools.
• The Australian Curriculum and AusVels. AusVELS will be implemented from Years 7 - 12 the College.

• Colac Secondary College will provide a variety of programs that will address the specific needs of students in relation to gender, special learning needs, disabilities and impairments, giftedness and students from language backgrounds other than English.
• Colac Secondary College will identify and cater for the different needs of particular cohorts of students when developing its curriculum plan.

Colac Secondary College when developing its Curriculum Plan will provide at least 25 hours student instruction per week and a minimum of 300 minutes per day.

(http://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/edulibrary/public/schadmin/environment/4-3.pdf)
• The Curriculum Committee will determine subject offerings for the following year. Staff in each Learning Area will develop and offer units of work in line with state and national curriculum frameworks.
• Curriculum programs in the middle years and senior years will be determined each year and will be based on student selections.
• The school's Curriculum Plan will also offer applied learning units from year 9 and VET and VCAL at Year 11 and 12 level.

(https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/vcal/index.aspx?Redirect=1)
Colac Secondary College will undertake an audit of the curriculum annually. This will be conducted in the Learning Area and Curriculum committee level. This audit will inform future curriculum planning.

Comprehensive course selection handbooks will be produced and circulated to the school community annually. Staff members undertake annual professional learning to assist students in the course selection process.

The use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) will be integrated across the curriculum to support the improvement of teaching and learning outcomes. The stages of schooling model will be used to inform curriculum development, planning and implementation.

In developing its curriculum plan the school will provide a broad range of educational pathways to ensure improved student outcomes. Curriculum leaders will be required to review their policy statement and prepare a comprehensive annual program budget and submit these to School Council.

Links and Appendices
Links which are connected with this policy are:
• http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/curriculum/default.htm
• http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/curriculum/year10to12.htm
• http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/curriculum/elearning.htm
• http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vce/
• http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vcal/index.html

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed every three to four years or more frequently if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstances.

Council Approval date	June 2021
Review date	2024
DET/VRQA required	Yes