

## **CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK POLICY**

### **POLICY STATEMENT**

The Distance Education Centre Victoria (DECV) provides innovative 21st century learning in a stimulating and supportive environment that engages all students and encourages them in the pursuit of excellence and the achievement of individual goals. The curriculum covers all the arrangements the school makes for students' development and learning. At the DECV this is referred to as the Learning Program and includes the learning materials, 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.

Learning Programs at the Distance Education Centre Victoria are designed to meet the educational needs of students whose circumstances prevent them from doing so at regular schools. The DECV develops Learning Programs which can be personalised to meet the needs of a diverse student cohort. A range of teaching strategies are employed including explicit teaching of core skills and an inquiry based approach to the essential questions inherent in each Learning Area.

It is an expectation that students enrolling at the Distance Education Centre Victoria will have access to the Internet.

Each year the school maps out its curriculum offerings and publishes them in Enrolment Handbooks which are available to the community on the school website.

### **GUIDELINES**

AusVELS forms the basis of the DECV program in Years F to 10.. In Years 11 and 12 Learning Programs are developed and delivered in accordance with VCAA requirements for VCE and VCAL.

Our school complies with all DEECD guidelines about the length of student instruction time required in Victorian schools.

Our school recognises and responds to diverse student needs when developing Learning Programs and the Teaching and Learning Plan.

Teaching practice is reviewed annually through the DEECD Performance and Development process.

Learning Programs are resourced through Program Budgets.

## **PROGRAM**

Our school program is structured to facilitate the development of personalised learning programs which cater to the individual learning needs of students.

All students are provided with an orientation program which introduces them to studying by distance and supports the development of learning goals.

Our school develops individual learning plans in collaboration with the supervisor, the student and allied professionals to address the needs of students in relation to specific learning needs, disabilities, impairments and giftedness.

Our school identifies and caters for the different needs of particular cohorts of students when developing its Teaching and Learning Plan.

Our Learning Programs are provided through a rich online learning environment. They are also available in print and on CD.

The Teaching and Learning Plan provides a broad range of educational pathways to ensure improved student outcomes.

The Education Committee determines the curriculum program for the following year, based on student demand and VCAA requirements to maintain balance and a broad provision of subject choices.

Input will be sought from the relevant staff in the Learning Area when determining Learning Program development for the following school year. (Further information is provided in the Learning Program Development Policy and the Learning Program Team Formation Policy which are linked to this document in the following section.)

Student learning outcomes data is reported in the Annual Report to the School Community provided to the DEECD and is also available on the State Register maintained by the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority.

## **LINKS AND APPENDICES (including processes related to this policy)**

Links which are connected with this policy are:

- [VCE](#)
- [VCAL](#)
- [AusVELS](#)
- [Learning Program Team Formation policy](#)
- [Learning Program Development policy](#)
- [F-10 Scope and Sequence documents](#)
- [Year 11 & 12 Subject Details](#)
- [Inclusion policy](#)
- [Performance and Development Process](#)
- [Annual Implementation Plan 2014](#)

Appendices which are connected with this policy are:

- Appendix A: Curriculum time allocations

<b>Date reviewed</b>	22/08/2014
<b>Developers</b>	Fiona Webster, Jennie Stacey, Helen Stearman, Martin Jorgensen, John Bartley, Leo Keith, Cory Capogreco
<b>Date of next review</b>	August 2015

## Appendix A

### Curriculum time allocations

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#### Years F - 10

The curriculum is based on the Aus/VELS standards. In Years F-6 the curriculum is organized into two week modules. In Years 7-10 core subjects are organized into four week modules and electives are organized into 16 week units in preparation for VCE/VCAL. The recommended hourly breakdown of time students spend engaged in different Learning Areas is outlined in the following table: Please note many subjects, particularly in Primary are integrated.

Allocated hours per Learning Area											
F –10											
	F	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>English</b>	10.0	10.0	10.0	8.0	8.0	6.5	6.5	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
<b>Mathematics</b>	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	5.5	5.5	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
<b>Science</b>	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
<b>Humanities</b>	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.5	2.5	5.0	5.0	4.0	4.0	*4.0	4.0
<b>The Arts</b>	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	*4.0
<b>Health and PE</b>	2.5	2.5	2.5	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
<b>Technologies</b>	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.5	1.0	1.0	*4.0	*4.0	*4.0	*4.0
<b>Discovery Learning</b>				0.5	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25

### Explanatory notes

- In Years F-2 English, Science, Humanities, the Arts, Health and PE and the Technologies are taught as integrated modules.
- In Years 3 -6 Science, Humanities, the Arts, Health and PE and the Technologies are taught as integrated modules.
- In Years 7 & 8 Science and Technology are integrated modules.
- In Years 7 & 8 students can also choose to undertake Philosophy as an additional extension subject.
- \*In Years 9 & 10 students can choose a range of electives in the Humanities, the Arts, Science and the Technologies. Electives are coloured blue in the table above.
- Discovery Learning is a negotiated inquiry learning program completed by students in Years 3-10.
- The AusVELS domains of Interpersonal Development, Personal Learning, Thinking Processes, and Communication are incorporated in all modules.

## Years 11 & 12

The curriculum is based on the VCAA VCE Study Designs and VCAL Course Outlines. In Years 11 & 12 the curriculum is organized into 16 week units. The hourly breakdown of the Learning Areas is outlined in the following table:

<b>Time Allocation per Learning Area Years 11 &amp; 12</b>				
<b>Learning Area and Subject</b>	<b>Hours</b>			
	<b>Unit 1</b>	<b>Unit 2</b>	<b>Unit 3</b>	<b>Unit 4</b>
English - English	5-6	5-6	6-8	6-8
English - EAL			6-8	6-8
English - Foundation	5-6	5-6		
English - Literature	5-6	5-6	6-8	6-8

English – English Language			6-8	6-8
Mathematics – General (Standard)	5-6	5-6		
Mathematics – General (Advanced)	5-6	5-6		
Mathematics – Mathematical Methods (CAS)	5-6	5-6	6-8	6-8
Mathematics - Specialist			6-8	6-8
Mathematics - Further			6-8	6-8
Mathematics - Foundation	5-6	5-6		
The Arts - Art	5-6	5-6	6-8	6-8
The Arts - Dance	5-6	5-6	5-6	5-6
The Arts - Media	6-8	6-8	6-8	6-8
The Arts – Music Style and Composition	5-6	5-6	6-8	6-8
The Arts – Visual Communication and Design	5-6	5-6	6-8	6-8
Science – Biology	5-6	5-6	6-8	6-8
Science - Chemistry	5-6	5-6	8	8
Science - Physics	5-6	5-6	6-8	6-8
Science - Psychology	5-6	5-6	6-8	6-8
Humanities - Accounting	5-6	5-6	6-8	6-8
Humanities – Australian Politics			6-8	6-8
Humanities – Business Management	5-6	5-6	6-8	6-8
Humanities – Classical Studies			6-8	6-8
Humanities - Economics	5-6	5-6	6-8	6-8
Humanities - Geography	5-6	5-6	6-8	6-8
Humanities – Global Politics			6-8	6-8
Humanities – History 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	5-6			
Humanities – History People and Power		5-6		
Humanities – Australian History			6-8	6-8
Humanities - Revolutions			6-8	6-8

Humanities – Legal Studies	5-6	5-6	6-8	6-8
Humanities -Philosophy	5-6	5-6	6-8	6-8
Health & Physical Education – Health and Human Development	5-6	5-6	6-8	6-8
Health & Physical Education – Physical Education			6-8	6-8
Technology – Food and Technology	6-8	6-8	6-8	6-8
Technology – IT in Action	5-6			
Technology – IT Pathways		5-6		
Technology – IT Applications			6-8	6-8
Technology – IT Software Development			6-8	6-8
Technology – Product Design and Technology	6-8	6-8	6-8	6-8
<b>VCAL</b>				
Personal Development Skills – Healthy Lifestyles (Foundation)	6			
Personal Development Skills – Community Involvement (Foundation)		6		
Personal Development Skills – Personal Finance (Intermediate)	6			
Personal Development Skills – Community Connection (Senior)	6			
Work Related Skills – Work Readiness (Foundation)	6			
Work Related Skills – Advanced Work Placement (Intermediate)		6		