Junior School Curriculum Overview

Whitsunday Anglican School
The School Motto, *Spiritus Scientiae* is taken from (1 Corinthians Chapter 12). Saint Paul regarded the *Spirit of Knowledge* as one of God's gifts to His people and, as such, this motto seemed eminently in keeping with the School's objective of imparting knowledge to its students through the auspices of the Holy Spirit.

**SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT**

Within a framework of Christian values provide the challenging and supportive learning experience that achieves the best outcome for the individual.

The School offers an education that caters to the individual needs of its students and proudly promotes Christian values.

To ensure the development of each student, emphasis is given:

- discipline that is firm but fair;
- to respect and be responsible for oneself and for each other;
- to participate in co-curricular activities and service;

The combined intention of which is the development of a commitment towards responsible citizenship.

There is a strong tradition of co-operation and friendship between parents and staff in the School.

The process of education is a combined operation, with School and home each playing an important part. The School expects to contribute to the full intellectual, physical, social, aesthetic, moral and spiritual development of each student.
Curriculum:
We understand that children progress at different rates, come to school with a variety of experiences and learning styles: we aim to tailor our curriculum through the Australian Curriculum and the research of Dr Robert Marzano to ensure each child is given every opportunity to succeed.

Kindergarten
The Whitsunday Anglican School Kindergarten program provides a balanced approach to the early learning experiences of our youngest students. We see the importance of play within our Kindergarten environment as it provides the children with opportunities for success. Children who experience success are more likely to not only want to repeat the experience, but want to take on more difficult challenges. We strongly value the development of the social and emotional wellbeing of each child through a play and exploration based curriculum supported by the You Can Do It! Early Childhood program, a Perceptual Motor Program and Literacy program; early literacy and numeracy foundations are integrated in our Kindergarten curriculum through play, exploration, intentional teaching moments, stories, songs, games and general discussion. At the Whitsunday Anglican School Kindergarten, we follow a routine that is flexible and is subject to change as the children’s needs and interests are responded to whilst ensuring the Kindergarten students are seen as part and parcel of a whole School focus.

Preparatory to Year Two
In the Preparatory Year to Year Two our programs focus on providing a wide range of educational experiences designed to support the students’ academic and social emotional growth. There is a focus on developing strong literacy and numeracy foundations through a combination of exploratory and formal learning episodes. Their excitement about learning, reading and playing is carefully nurtured as they enjoy the challenges of research and sharing their learning with friends. The challenges of an expanded Specialist program inclusive of Christian Education, the Arts, Health & Physical Education, as well as key learning areas of Social Emotional Learning, Technologies (Digital & Design), Science, History, Geography, Japanese and French languages and cultural study all combine to provide a range of experiences and foundations for our youngest students in a quest to developing independence as learners.

Year Three to Year Four
In Years Three and Four, the students are encouraged to evaluate their wider community, begin to build upon skills and talents discovered in the early foundation years and continue to develop and enhance their knowledge and understanding in the key learning areas of Mathematics and English. They continue with Specialist lessons of Christian Education, Health & Physical Education, Science, History, Geography, Technologies (Digital & Design), the Arts with Year Three afforded the opportunity to study violin or cello as part of their Music curriculum. The Year Four students also begin the year with their laptops as the first step in the School’s commitment to utilising mobile devices to enhance the learning and teaching process. The study of French and Japanese languages and cultures enrich the learning experiences for our students.

Learning Enrichment
The School supports all students with assistance from Staff within the Learning Enrichment Faculty through programs such as Early Literacy Foundations (ELF), Phonological Awareness in Literacy (PAL), and English as a Second Language (ESL).

Our Preparatory Year to Year Four students explore coding and higher order thinking through Digital Technologies inclusive of Lego (Years One-Three) and Robotics (Year Four). We continue to light house the Sciences and Mathematics through programs during National Science Week and ‘Fun With Maths’. The Visual Arts are also highlighted within our Year Three and Year Four Artist-in-Residence program. An opportunity for students from Year Three and Year Four to work with ‘like-ability’ students is programmed through the Junior School Days of Excellence programs in STEM and Authorship and Illustration.
LEARNING
through LOVE

LIVING
by FAITH

LEADING
with SERVICE

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