



## ST CLARE'S CURRICULUM PLAN

Version: 2016

Review: 2017

Curriculum is “dynamic and includes all the learning experiences provided for the student. It encompasses the learning environment, teaching methods, the resources provided for learning, the systems of assessment, the school ethos and the ways in which students and staff behave towards one another. All of these provide experiences from which students learn. Together, they add meaning, purpose and enjoyment to students’ lives. (Curriculum Framework p.16).

In addition, the curriculum of a Catholic school is concerned with students’ integrated development as Christian persons – as responsible, inner-directed individuals of Christian virtue, capable of free choice and making value judgements enlightened by informed Christian conscience. Catholic schools seek to help students ‘develop a total commitment to Christ’ (Mandate p.7).

### **Mission Statement**

Following the example of Christ, the Good Shepherd, St Clare’s School recognises the value and dignity of each student and provides a supportive educational environment for girls whose previous school environment has become unsuited to their needs.

As a Catholic school, St Clare’s forms part of the reconciling and welfare work of the Church. As an apostolic work of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, the community of St Clare’s carries forward the spirit and traditions of the Sisters of The Good Shepherd.

St Clare’s School is committed to bringing to the wider community a greater understanding of the demands of social justice and compassion for those persons disadvantaged by injustice. St Clare’s strives to bring about that reconciliation which is at the heart of the Gospel message.

### **The Catholic Curriculum**

The Catholic education curriculum shall help students to discover which values are absolute and deepen their understanding of these values through critical reflection and application (Mandate, para 69). Religious Education is the first learning area in the Catholic school curriculum.

### **St Clare’s Values**

The St Clare’s values help to support our mission and guide us in our daily school life:

- C**—We CARE about ourselves and others
- A**—We AIM high in our ACADEMIIC WORK—we can ACHIEVE
- R**—We value RESPONSIBILITY and RESPECT
- E**—We are ENGAGED positively in school life

## **Teaching Team**

The Teaching Team is comprised of teachers and teachers' assistants. Every member of the team is involved in a number of curriculum areas and where possible, these areas are best suited to their skills and training. The teaching team differentiate the curriculum and their teaching styles to ensure each student in their class has the best opportunity to learn.

The Teaching Team is encouraged to participate in professional development opportunities directed to their subjected area or the profession of teaching. Various professional development opportunities are also offered by the school as the need arises.

The Teaching Team participates in a Professional Learning Pathway review which is aligned to the AITSL Teaching Standards. This review encourages the teachers to reflect on their performance and also future goals in line with the Standards. This review is also an opportunity for teachers to make requests and suggestions for the future.

## **Student Support Team**

The Student Support Team is coordinated by the Psychologist and is comprised of the Youth Worker, Counsellor, Teacher Assistant/Youth Worker and a representative of the Teaching Team. The Student Support Team promotes and monitors attendance and engagement and also provides counselling to enable the best possible learning to take place. The Student Support Team uses proactive strategies to motivate and engage students into the life of the school.

## **Professional Development**

Professional Development opportunities are presented to all staff at Staff Meetings and staff are encouraged to participate to ensure their professional standards are current and their interests are met. Teachers are encouraged to attend network meetings. Moderation also provides valuable professional development opportunities. Teachers are supported to meet the TRBWA requirements and the Support Team are provided with the opportunity for supervision.

## **Individual Education**

Each student has an individual education plan (IEP) which includes:

- Attendance Plan
- Care Plan
- Student goals, strengths and challenges
- Individual Teaching Strategies
- Curriculum adjustments
- Environmental adjustments
- Information on Assessments

The IEPs are formulated on enrolment and updated in Term One and/or in Term Two at the student reviews with input from the student, parent/guardian, teacher representative and principal. Up-date meetings are held as needed to ensure each IEP is reflective of students' changing circumstances.

In Term Three Year Ten students are given extensive course counselling to ensure the best possible pathways which are suited to their needs/capabilities and goals.

## Curriculum

The curriculum is evaluated each year to take into account the needs of the students and various skills of the teachers and staff. The curriculum is designed to:

- ensure each student has the opportunity to reach their potential
- provide opportunities for students to reflect on and participate in religious education and social justice areas
- motivate those students who have been disengaged from their education
- provide opportunities for personal growth and reflection
- provide pathways for university, TAFE and or the workplace
- provide person centered planning for independent living
- focus on building literacy and numeracy capacity

### 2016 Curriculum:

#### Year Eight, Nine and Ten

St Clare's offers the Western Australian Curriculum in Years Eight, Nine and Ten and the lessons contain a variety of learning activities to engage our students in interesting and practical ways. All subject, course and certificate programs are stored on shared drive and will be published on SEQTA.

The subjects offered in Years Eight, Nine and Ten for 2016 include:

English	Health	Certificate I Business
Mathematics	Virtual Italy	Certificate I Work Preparation
Humanities & Social Sciences	Girls With a Purpose	Practical 1 Art
Science	Literacy	Practical 2 Café
Religious Education	Information Technology	

The students have the benefit of regular guest speakers as part of the weekly Student Meeting and life skills lessons and self-esteem activities are also offered weekly. QuickSmart one-to-one tutoring will also be available to students who are identified as needing remediation.

#### Year Eleven and Twelve

Comprehensive source counselling is undertaken with all the students and their parents to determine the most appropriate study pathway for each girl.

Courses and Certificate Courses are offered in Years 11-12 to prepare students for WACE Graduation and the Certificate of Attainment. In 2016 girls who wish to take ATAR English in Year Eleven can do so at St Clare's, however other ATAR Courses are undertaken through the Schools of Isolated and Distance Education (SIDE). Students studying at SIDE will be assisted by St Clare's teachers and also take at least one Course of Study or Certificate Course through St Clare's.

The Certificate Courses and General Courses prepare students for TAFE, for bridging courses to university or for the workplace.

Year Eleven	Year Twelve
Religious Education (St Clare's)	Religious Education (St Clare's)
English General & ATAR	English General (St Clare's) & ATAR (SIDE)
Mathematics Essential	Mathematics Essential & ATAR (SIDE)
Children Family and the Community General	Children Family and the Community General
Health Studies General	Health Studies General
Food Science & Technology General	Food Science & Technology General
Psychology General	Human Biology General (SIDE)
Human Biology General & ATAR (SIDE)	Visual Art General
Visual Art General	Certificate I ICT
Certificate II Business	Certificate II Business
Certificate II Community Services (Child Services)	Certificate II Foundation Skills
Certificate II Foundation Skills	

### **Beyond School**

In 2016 students will be offered the chance to participating in MAPing their future. MAP – My Action Plan will be a comprehensive transition plan for the students as they prepare for independent living and will include:

- Enhancing employability skills. Eg. barista course
- Partnerships with local organisations for supported work experience
- Familiarisation visits to institutions e.g. Bank, Medicare etc.
- Driver education and lessons – Driving to the Future

The education offered at St Clare's is designed to prepare each student for options for further education, employment and for life.

### **Data Analysis**

OLNA and NAPLAN testing takes place at the prescribed times and teachers provide students with the opportunities to practice. Teachers are given diagnostic information from these tests to enable them to alter the curriculum if required. Compass Testing (ACER) is conducted in term one for all students to test students Literacy and Numeracy. Teachers are given the results of these tests to assist with curriculum implementation.

AWE (Assessment of Wellbeing in Education) testing has been introduced this year and is conducted once a term to evaluate individual student wellbeing and the wellbeing of the cohort. This information will be used to inform and evaluate the pastoral and academic programs of the school and also implement individual and whole school strategies.

## **Culture of Learning**

Current academic research states that feedback has a large part in improving student outcomes. Staff have presented and participated in a professional development session on feedback. In 2015 students were filmed giving their responses to the question: *how and what feedback assists their learning?* Staff have been encouraged to give informative, positive and timely feedback to the students.

In this film the students also talked about their different learning styles. Staff have been encouraged to use this information to inform their lesson planning. The focus of feedback will continue into 2016 and a further focus will also be identified.

In 2016 a homework club has been established on Monday and Wednesday afternoons for Year 11 and 12 students.

Study classes are now supervised by teachers and as far as practicable teachers will assist with the students studying their particular subject.

## **Course Counselling**

In Term Three Year Ten students are given extensive course counselling to ensure the best possible pathway which will enable them to achieve their WACE and which is best suited to their needs/capabilities and goals. This involves:

- Teachers conducting information and Q&A sessions about courses offered
- TAFE counsellor interviews
- Presentations about university offerings
- Parent and student meetings with the Principal to choose pathways

## **Engaging Students**

The CARE School Values, the academic curriculum, pastoral care system and activities and the whole school ethos is centred on engaging students. Many of these students have not been positively engaged in school in the past or their current life situation is difficult and attendance at school has been interrupted. Encouraging attendance is imperative if the students are to access the programs offered by the school.

Some students may not be able to attend the full day program or may wish to do extra work at home. In order to facilitate this SEQTA Learn will be connected in Term Two 2016 and this will enable students to view their academic program when they are not present at school. SEQTA Parents will also be introduced in Term Two and this will enable parents/guardians to view the academic programs

## **Evaluation**

The Professional Development Day in Term Two will be used to evaluate the curriculum and plan for the following year. This will also inform the Course Counselling in Term Three for the Year Ten students. The focus for improvement will also be identified and strategies for implementation will be discussed.

## **CURRICULUM PLANNER**

### **TERM ONE**

- IEPs for newly enrolled students
- AWE Testing
- Compass Testing
- OLNAs Testing
- Census
- Upload programs to SCSA
- Syllabus delivery Audit SCSA

### **TERM TWO**

- Student Reviews
- IEPs updated
- Teacher and Staff Reviews
- NAPLAN Testing
- Curriculum Planning and improvement focus identified
- AWE Testing
- Semester One Reports

### **TERM THREE**

- Year Ten Course Counselling
- AWE Testing
- OLNAs Testing
- Timetabling to commence
- Census

### **TERM FOUR**

- Curriculum Planning for next year
- AWE Testing
- Guest enrolments for next year's students
- Semester Two Reports
- Timetabling to continue