

Note: This document contains extracts from a more detailed curriculum, assessment and reporting policy statement prepared by this secondary school. These extracts are provided as contextual information to support viewing the examples of the four interrelated layers within whole-school curriculum planning.

This school aims to provide a dynamic learning culture that promotes integrity, innovation and the individual. We aim for and value:

- Excellence and creativity in our achievements and ambitions
- Integrity and honesty in our actions and relationships
- Diversity in our curriculum, in each other, and in our community
- Strong and open communication between our school and our homes, and between our teachers, our students and our families
- A commitment to social justice and a passion to protect and improve our environment and our community.

The school is committed to offering a comprehensive curriculum based on the Victorian Curriculum F-10.

The school has some unique offerings including:

Literacy, Numeracy and STEM

Literacy is the number one focus of our College. We believe that ALL students should reach their optimum level of literacy by Year 10 so that they will be well prepared for their desired pathway, be it VCE, VCAL and eventually the workforce. Our explicit, targeted teaching of key literacy skills across all subjects enable our students to grasp concepts and ideas more successfully.

Numeracy is our other major building block for learning. We have trained STEM staff, a partnership with Deakin University and a new STEM program available at all year levels.

Aim High

Aim High is a selective extension program which is offered in all subjects. Students are challenged through high order thinking and critical inquiry within an advanced curriculum, which ensures they are learning at their optimum level.

iCreate

iCreate is an elective program for all students in years 7-12 where, on Wednesdays, students have the opportunity to follow their passion and undertake a project-based elective program.

As the classes are made up with students from a range of age groups, it is a great opportunity for students to integrate more fully into the Westall Learning Community. Subjects include Aviation, Taekwondo, Outdoor Education and Coding.

International Program and Westall English Language Centre

Westall Secondary College has a well-established International Program, recruiting students from China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Korea, Japan, Saudi Arabia and India, whereby students complete their secondary education in Australia. With globalisation now the reality for the current generation,

Curriculum Framework Policy (2025)

learning about other cultures and interacting with people from across the world is paramount and the Westall International Program affords our students the holistic education needed for success in the workforce.

Westall English Language Centre (WELC)

Westall English Language Centre is a Government funded facility which provides an intensive English program for newly arrived students. WELC caters for students who have arrived in Australia as refugees, migrants, or are full fee paying overseas students. Most students are eligible to participate in the 20-week English as an Additional Language (EAL) intensive program prior to transitioning to a mainstream educational setting.

The learning focus in the Language Centre is not only on learning English in preparation for the mainstream classroom, but also on personal development. Regular incursions and excursions are undertaken to support the learning and to expose newly arrived students to Australian life and culture.

A guaranteed and viable curriculum is important to the school, and particularly to our students. We have high expectations about the content we teach, the way in which we engage students in learning, and the means by which we assess their level of understanding.

A systematic curriculum planning process has been developed by the school which allows us to make decisions about the range of learning experiences offered to our students. The curriculum planning process ensures:

- a mechanism for the continuous improvement process
- a benchmark for quality that is based on course design principles
- peer review occurs and feedback is provided on courses
- an internal assessment of courses ensuring consistency of design and approach
- staff develop a detailed understanding of the whole school curriculum
- consistency between the curriculum and other school plans
- a guaranteed and viable curriculum based on the Victorian Curriculum F-10.

Our intention is to ensure quality course development and design by having 'quality criteria'. The criteria explicitly define a good course and provide direction to teachers. The criteria are also used as a basis to provide feedback to teachers.

REVIEW PERIOD

Policy last reviewed	1 st September 2024
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	1 st September 2027