

LITERACY AND NUMERACY POLICY

Purpose

The following policy aims to ensure that Damascus College provides a clear and coordinated response to the literacy and numeracy needs of its students as well as to fulfil the requirements of both government and CEO guidelines.

Scope

This policy applies to the whole-school approach to literacy and numeracy and is the responsibility of all staff.

Definitions

Literacy: is defined as the ability to use appropriate language skills to participate effectively in society. It involves the integration of speaking, listening, viewing, reading, writing and communication technologies. Literacy also involves the ability to use and modify language for different purposes in a range of contexts. A literate person is one who has the ability to interpret, apply and communicate to enable full, critical and effective participation in ever day life.

Numeracy (mathematical literacy): refers to the individual's ability to use mathematical concepts efficiently to make sense of the world. It makes use of number and spatial sense combined with critical mathematical thinking involving measurement, statistics, probability, algebra and geometry.

A numerate person is one who has the ability to interpret, apply and communicate mathematical information to enable full, critical and effective participation in everyday life.

Policy Statement

It is the policy of Damascus College to implement the Literacy and Numeracy Capabilities of the National Curriculum.

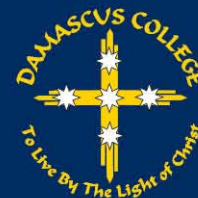
The College will develop a whole-school understanding of literacy and numeracy to assist in improving student outcomes.

Damascus College will ensure that all teachers:

- are responsible for explicit teaching of the subject-specific literacy and numeracy of their learning area;
- have a clear understanding of the literacy and numeracy demands and opportunities of their learning area;
- use student data derived from regular monitoring of student literacy and numeracy skills to inform future learning; and
- provide learning experiences and opportunities that support the development of student literacy and numeracy knowledge and skills.

Damascus College will ensure that all other staff:

- have an understanding of the literacy and numeracy demands and opportunities within the College environment;



- have a role to play in supporting student literacy and numeracy development.

Consequences

Damascus College will:

- provide appropriate professional learning for all staff;
- establish a consistent approach to monitoring student literacy and numeracy skills;
- establish a central collection point of student literacy and numeracy data;
- use the data to measure student progress and inform future learning; and
- provide curriculum materials which incorporate the explicit teaching of appropriate literacy and numeracy skills.

Responsibilities

The Principal and Leadership Team are responsible for the implementation of the policy.

Associated Documents

ACARA-General Capabilities in the Australian Curriculum

Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians-CEETY

CEO Guidelines