Doncaster Gardens Primary School  
Mathematics Policy

Philosophical Basis:
The numeracy program at Doncaster Gardens Primary School will reflect the nature of Mathematics in our society. It will enable students to confidently and competently apply Mathematics in everyday situations. Students will develop an appreciation and enjoyment of Mathematics and come to realise that numeracy is a powerful and concise means of communication. Numeracy involves thinking logically, planning strategies and exploring solutions.

Guidelines:
• Mathematical learning is an active process.
• Mathematics involves making sense of things in our world.
• Activities will build on and respect students’ experiences.
• Activities will be purposeful and interesting.
• Appropriate mathematical language will be used and developed.
• Challenges and risk taking will be encouraged and provided for within a supportive environment.
• Students will be encouraged to talk and write about mathematics in their everyday language.
• Mathematics programs will provide a variety of strategies for problem solving.

Implementation:
• Class programs will be in accordance with the Australian Curriculum Mathematics guidelines.
• The Early Years Numeracy Program will be implemented in Years P-4.
• Programs will make provision for all students’ abilities, to enable students to perform beyond their indicative level.
• Enrichment programs may include (but are not restricted to) Australian Mathematics Trust Maths Challenge Stage and Competition, ICAS Mathematics and Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads
• Extension programs in Mathematics will be conducted for selected students in Years 2-6.
• A wide range of competencies will be catered for in open-ended activities.
• Personalised Education Plans will be implemented where appropriate.
• Activities will develop knowledge of facts and technical skills.
• Mathematics activities will be based on real-life situations where appropriate.
• Emphasis will be upon co-operative group work and problem solving.
• Sharing of mathematical learning and reflection will be encouraged.
• Mathematics will be celebrated with special activities where appropriate.
• The use of ICTs in teaching and learning Mathematics will be encouraged, eg Mathletics, MSExcel.

Evaluation:
• Teachers will observe student interest in, and enthusiasm for, mathematics.
• Common assessment tasks and moderation will be regularly conducted to ascertain achievement levels related to specific objectives within a sequential program.
• Anecdotal records and samples of student work will be kept.
• The Department of Education and Training (DET) assessment requirements will be met.
• The Early Numeracy Interview will be conducted each year for students in Years P-2.
• This policy will be reviewed every three years as part of the policy review cycle.

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