Doncaster Gardens Primary School  
Science Policy

Philosophical Basis:

Science and its applications are part of everyday life. Science education offers children the means to explore their world. It helps them to understand their environment and prepares them to develop an informed awareness of scientific issues affecting their world.

Guidelines:

The Science curriculum will assist children to:

- Develop scientific knowledge and skills through the AusVELS (Australian/Victorian Essential Learning Standards) dimensions of Science Knowledge and Understanding and Science at Work.
- Apply knowledge of science and understanding of some key scientific theories, principles and ideas to explain and predict events in the natural and physical worlds.
- Develop and use skills of scientific investigation, reasoning and analysis to generate or refine knowledge, find solutions and ask questions.
- Develop scientific attitudes such as flexibility, curiosity, respect for evidence, and critical reflection.
- Communicate scientific understanding in appropriate scientific language to a range of audiences.
- Participate in hands-on experiences.

Implementation:

- Science will be taught according to the AusVELS documents and assessed against the Standards.
- Science will be developed and integrated with Technology and the other domains through an inclusive ‘hands on’ program which promotes co-operative participation through an inquiry approach to learning.
- Students will be encouraged to participate in the Australasian Schools’ Science Competition and Science Talent Search.
- Specific topics may be addressed by guest presenters.
- Science Week and Science Night will be celebrated where appropriate.
- Ongoing professional learning will be available to staff.

Evaluation:

- There will be ongoing evaluation of programs and teaching methods.
- Children will be assessed according to the AusVELS.
- Student checklists, anecdotal records, bookwork, examples of children’s work/models/projects, participation, student evaluation and self-evaluation will form part of the evaluation process.
- This policy will be reviewed every three years as part of the policy review cycle.