

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

POLICY

Rationale:

- Focussed and needs driven professional development programs provide optimum opportunities for professional growth, enhanced diversity, and improved student learning.

Aims:

- To provide opportunity for all staff to further their professional skills and/or qualifications.
- To provide opportunities for staff to further develop their awareness, knowledge and skills in current teaching and learning practices.
- To develop teachers with enhanced skills that in turn will improve student learning.

Implementation:

- Ongoing and needs driven professional development is an obligation of all professionals.
- Each individual's professional development is a shared responsibility between the school and the staff member.
- Each staff member will develop a personal professional development plan that is embedded within, and reflects the performance review process.
- The personal professional development plan will allow for both school identified needs, and those of a personal interest.
- A staff member will be assigned the responsibility of professional development coordinator. Their role will be to inform staff of professional development opportunities, which in turn will reflect individual staff needs as identified in performance review plans. The coordinator will also play a role in coordinating and organising professional development activities for individuals and the whole school, as well as communicating any replacement teacher needs with the Principal.
- A budget will be allocated to professional development each year and adhered to. Budget implementation will allow, over time, for equity of resources amongst staff, and include an amount for incidental professional development. **The Principal will be responsible for approving any professional development that will cost the school, either in registration costs or teacher replacement.**
- Staff are encouraged to seek and provide professional development from other staff members within the school.
- All staff attending professional development have a responsibility to report to the remainder of staff about the activity and its benefits etc.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

August 2017.