

Scottsdale High School

Teaching and Learning



Ratified by School Association
4th March 2015

Teaching and Learning at Scottsdale High School

Scottsdale High School is a community of learners where lifelong learning is valued by all members of our school community. We believe that all students can be successful learners and we have high expectations for all students to achieve individual excellence. We understand that positive and respectful relationships underpin successful learning and we focus on understanding and catering for the learning needs of each student.

Teachers are knowledgeable and passionate about their learning areas and strive to deliver the curriculum in an engaging and relevant way. We have a number of whole school practices that are embedded in all teaching and learning programs. This includes having clear learning intentions (goals) and success criteria that support students to know the purpose of their learning and what they need to do to be successful. Our teachers use questioning strategies to extend students' thinking.

We recognise that feedback is an important part of the learning process and we use a range of strategies to provide students with regular feedback during the learning process. Our feedback is personalised, future focused and designed to encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning. Assessment is ongoing and includes a variety of approaches. We understand that students develop at different rates. Our teachers cater for individual needs by structuring the learning in a variety of ways.

We encourage students to work co-operatively with a focus on developing important 21st century skills including citizenship, character, collaboration, communication, creativity and critical thinking. This includes use of learning circles as an important strategy for enabling students to work together to discuss ideas, develop their understandings, challenge their thinking and value other points of view.

Literacy, numeracy and Information Communication and Technology are explicitly taught and embedded across the curriculum, underpinning all learning areas. The development of all students is closely monitored so that we can address specific learning needs and continue to extend all students. We believe that learning happens in a variety of situations and we provide a dynamic learning environment that includes a range of extra curricula programs and campuses.

We aim to develop in our students the skills and habits to be independent, self-directed, engaged and motivated learners. We believe that students need to take ownership of their learning and we work with students to support them to do this. Learning is a partnership between school and family. We encourage parents to value learning and have high expectations of their children. This includes talking to their children about their learning, keeping in contact with the school, discussing progress with teachers and attending school events.

We aim to build a culture where learning is valued and enjoyed. Our students aspire to achieve at high levels and success is the norm at Scottsdale High School. We regularly celebrate and acknowledge student learning through grade assemblies, whole school events, newsletters and in the wider community. Our school motto is 'Think Positive, Be Positive' and this reflects the importance of having the right attitude and a positive approach.