**Mathematics Policy**

**RATIONALE**
At St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Catholic Parish Primary School, we believe that Mathematics is an intrinsic part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum.

Mathematics pervades all aspects of life, therefore active and effective participation in Australian society is dependent upon learners being numerate and able to apply mathematical thinking and skills in everyday life, with confidence, understanding, purpose and enjoyment.

Mathematics provides a means of accessing and processing information and develops logic and reasoning. It involves knowing mathematical facts, developing a sense of number, being able to carry out mathematical procedures and being able to use mathematics in solving problems, and describing and understanding the world.

At St Mary of the Cross MacKillop we focus on actively engaging the students in the development of mathematical understanding by using manipulatives and a variety of representations; working in flexible small groups co-operatively and independently to solve problems; estimate efficiently; investigate and record findings. Emphasis is placed on problem solving, finding patterns and making connections.

**AIMS**
Therefore at St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Catholic Parish Primary School we aim to develop and teach a Maths program that will:

- Be integrated across the curriculum as well as focused teaching sessions.
- Encourage an enthusiastic and inquisitive attitude to mathematics.
- Foster high standards of achievement in mathematics.
- Enable students to acquire and develop mathematical language, skills, knowledge and understanding, building on their previous learning, skills, knowledge and understandings in a supportive learning environment.
- Present mathematics as an enjoyable and interesting activity, involving inquiry and experimentation.
- Develop concepts through the use of concrete materials leading to development of abstract thinking.
- Develop clear logical thinkers, who become confident in mathematics, through an understanding of the nature of number, space, relationships and patterns.
- Equip students with strategies to enable them to apply mathematics to real and unfamiliar situations within and beyond the classroom.
- Develop an appreciation of the intrinsic value and fascination of mathematics as well as its usefulness in life.

Therefore at St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Catholic Parish Primary School students will be enabled to:

- Develop a positive and confident attitude to mathematics.
- Make an active contribution to their own learning, by developing the skills of independence and inquiry.
ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP CATHOLIC PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL
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- Become confident and competent working with mathematics.
- Develop an understanding of the ways in which information is gathered and presented.
- Become thinkers and problem solvers.
- Develop a clear understanding of the language of mathematics, and the ability to communicate using clear and precise mathematical language.
- Develop logical thinking, enabling them to record work clearly and in a variety of ways.
- Develop the language, skills, knowledge and understanding needed in daily life.
- Gain understanding through the use of concrete materials progressing to the abstract, developing depth of conceptual understanding.
- Develop the ability to effectively use technology to assist in solving mathematical problems.
- Develop the ability to apply learning and understandings in a variety of contexts and to solve real life problems.

IMPLEMENTATION
The Australian Curriculum: Mathematics will be used as the mathematics curriculum of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Catholic Parish Primary School.

Planning
- Professional Learning and planning support will be provided through regular Mathematics Professional Learning Team meetings
- Learning and teaching based on student needs identified using monitoring and assessment methods such as pre-tests, rich assessment tasks, clinical interviews, number screening tests and class observation.
- Planning is recorded on the St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Catholic Parish Primary School Mathematics Term Planner the Individual Learning Plan (as required) and the daily planner.

Teaching
- A variety of learning contexts inclusive of hands on materials, open-ended tasks, rich learning activities, mental arithmetic strategies.
- Explicit teaching of mathematical skills and knowledge
- Time for learners to interact and explain their learning through a share or reflection time will be provided
- All classes will have Mathematics session equivalent to 5 hours per week

Reporting
- Parents will receive a written report in relation to the AusVELS Standards, twice yearly.
- Parent Teacher Student learning conversations will be held twice a year.
- Parents of students who participate in National Testing (NAPLAN) will be provided with the written report generated as a result of their participation.

Resources:
A range of resources are available in the form of texts, concrete materials and electronically available resources.

Evaluation
This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s four-year review cycle.