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# JUNIOR SCHOOL CURRICULUM

## Years Prep to Four – Laying the Foundations

The Junior School Curriculum provides quality teaching programs that focus on developing the fundamental knowledge, skills and behaviour in literacy and numeracy together with opportunities for the development of physical, creative and information and communication technology (ICT) skills.

The Curriculum is based on the Australian Curriculum which sets out the sequence of learning typically expected across the years of schooling Prep to Year 10. The Curriculum content, presented as content descriptions, specifies the knowledge, understanding and skills that students in Prep to Year 4 are to be taught and are expected to learn.

Teachers use the Australian Curriculum to develop teaching and learning programs that build on students' current learning. It enables teachers to plan rigorous, relevant and engaging learning and assessment experiences for all students.

The achievement standards at each level, describe a broad sequence of expected learning in terms of what students are typically able to understand and able to do. Teachers use the achievement standards to locate the student's current levels of achievement and then plan programs that build on, and account for the different abilities of students, their prior learning experiences, and the different rates at which they learn.

Literacy and Numeracy are given particular emphasis in the Junior School. The study of English from Prep to Year 4 provides students with a wide range of experiences with language and texts. These experiences are included in the curriculum as valid ways of communicating and as rich resources for further learning about language, literature and literacy. From Prep to Year 4, students engage with purposeful listening, reading, viewing, speaking and writing activities for different purposes and contexts.

Students in Prep to Year 4 have the opportunity to access mathematical ideas by developing a sense of number, order, sequence and pattern; by understanding quantities and their representations; by learning about attributes of objects and collections, position, movement and direction, and by developing an awareness of the collection, presentation and variation of data and a capacity to make predictions about chance events.

Other subjects are taught within integrated units using an enquiry approach to learning. A variety of special events, incursions, excursions and guest speakers enrich the learning in these areas.

Specialist subjects in Junior School include Physical Education, Perceptual Motor Program (PMP) in Prep & Year 1, Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Library and Indonesian in Years 3 & 4. In 2014 the Mandarin language program will commence in Prep.